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50¢/Free to Deployed Areas

Heidelberg base reborn

Recently shuttered Patton Barracks
provides safe haven for refugees
fleeing violence in Iraq, Syria

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JOSHUA L. DeMOTTA/Stars and Stripes

Refugees play soccer on the baseball field on the former U.S. Army base in Heidelberg, Germany, on Sept. 9.

EBOLA OUTBREAK

Army puts returning troops in isolation

BY JON HARPER
AND CHRIS CARROLL
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Army has ordered apparently healthy U.S. soldiers returning from a mission to combat an Ebola outbreak in Africa into medical isolation amid growing fears about the spread of the disease, the Defense Department announced Monday.

The quarantine order exceeds the requirements of a recent DOD policy on Ebola exposure, reflecting ongoing uncertainty at the Pentagon about how to deal with fears that the outbreak, which has killed nearly 5,000 people, could expand to the United States and elsewhere.

Among the 12 troops so far subjected to the Army's "enhanced monitoring" order is Maj. Gen. Darryl Williams, commander of U.S. Army-Africa, who handed over command of Operation United Assistance and returned to Vicenza, Italy, in recent days.

SEE ISOLATION ON PAGE 9

Exchange stores again pull fitness supplements

BY TRAVIS J. TRITTEN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Exchange stores at military bases around the world again pulled fitness supplements from shelves earlier this month after concerns they contained a potentially dangerous and untested stimulant.

The recalls might be triggering

déjà vu among troops.

Nearly three years ago, the same stores removed a variety of other supplements containing the previously obscure stimulant DMAA after reports of soldier deaths. The families of two soldiers who died after taking the products in 2011 have sued and those cases are heading toward trial.

Now, a study published Oct. 8 found the substance causing the latest mili-

tary recalls, DMBA, closely mirrors the effects of DMAA as well as its name. The familiar spate of new product recalls and published research shows the military's struggles with potentially dangerous fitness supplements may be far from over.

"We are seeing the same style [as with DMAA] ... multiple companies are introducing these brand new stimulants that have never been test-

ed," said Pieter Cohen, a doctor and assistant professor of medicine at Harvard University who has studied the stimulants extensively.

SEE DMBA ON PAGE 2

MD2 Meltdown, found to contain the untested stimulant **DMBA**, has been pulled from shelves at Army, Air Force and Marine exchanges.



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"You know what? For some reason, I keep getting really lucky this time of year, so I'll take it."

— San Francisco Giants pitcher Madison Bumgarner after he beat the Kansas City Royals in Game 5 of the World Series on Sunday. His Giants now lead the series 3-2.

See story on Page 31

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MILITARY

DMBA: Supplements off exchanges' shelves as suits progress

FROM FRONT PAGE

At least a dozen supplement products were found to contain the new synthetic stimulant, which has unknown effects and could pose significant health risks, according to a study co-authored by Cohen and published in the *Journal of Drug Testing and Analysis*.

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service said it pulled the weight-loss supplement MD2 Meltedown on Oct. 14 and Marine Corps exchanges reported removing it a day later due to concerns over DMBA.

Supplement giant GNC, which operates outlets on many military bases, removed that product and two others called Redline White Heat and OxyTHERM Pro this month, the exchange services said.

The Navy Exchange said it does not sell any of the products that tested positive for DMBA.

Companies have sought out new stimulants after the Food and Drug Administration pressed for the DMBA products to be eliminated following a rash of health problems beginning with the soldier deaths in 2011, Cohen said.

The military services and their exchange stores have struggled in the past to keep up with the variety of potentially dangerous substances that have hit the mar-

ket in recent years. Supplements are largely unregulated by the FDA and ingredients are self-reported. Recalls typically occur only after reports of health problems from the public.

Bodybuilding and weight-loss supplements are highly popular among troops who are often under intense pressure to stay fit — on-post retail sales ring in at about \$190 million per year and about 250,000 servicemembers use products considered to be high risk for side effects.

Last year, a supplement containing a designer drug similar to methamphetamine was not recalled from military shelves until months after initial reports of the dangers.

In the case of DMBA, it appears the services moved more quickly.

The stakes can be high and fallout from potentially dangerous supplements can stretch out for years.

Retailer GNC and a maker of DMBA products, USPlabs, recently settled a class-action lawsuit in Florida, reportedly



Sparling



Cola

the supplements in 2011, are still waiting for their day in court.

"We're just really racing toward trial. The Sparlings are really looking forward to telling their story in court," said Anne Andrews, a California attorney who also represents Cola's family. "They want the world to know a young soldier died because of a dangerous product sold at GNC."

Sparling, 22, took the "body" building and weight-loss supplement Jack3d just before a 3½-mile run with his new unit in summer 2011. He collapsed, lost consciousness and began foaming at the mouth.

He was pronounced dead several hours later at a nearby hospital.

His parents believe DMBA directly contributed to their son's death and that it could kill or seriously injure some users even at recommended doses. They sued GNC and USPlabs and created a

foundation in their son's name to educate the public on the dangers of supplements.

Their case is set to be heard in a Texas court in June.

A lawsuit against the companies was also filed by Cola's mother. The sergeant experienced muscle breakdown and heatstroke in late 2011 after taking a DMBA product. She suffered with complications for more than a month and died while waiting for a liver transplant, according to the court filing.

Both GNC and USPlabs declined to comment on the lawsuits.

They have repeatedly denied DMBA products pose a health risk.

A spokesman for USPlabs referred Stars and Stripes to a Department of Defense safety review two years ago that could not determine DMBA caused four reported soldier deaths but did find the substance might have endangered thousands of troops.

A GNC spokesman issued a statement saying, "GNC fully complies with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations with respect to the sale of dietary supplements, including those governing ingredients."

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Guard recruiter fights accusations, but not subject to UCMJ

By JILL BURKE

(Anchorage) Alaska Dispatch News

Master Sgt. Jarrett Carson, a large, bald man described by his own attorney as a loud, brash, direct, in-your-face senior noncommissioned officer, is fighting to save his military career.

Carson, a 19-year guardsman, is the latest recruiter from the Alaska Army National Guard to undergo a trial-like administrative hearing to determine whether he should be kicked out of the military.

For Carson and other recruiters accused of sexual misconduct and other violations, such administrative hearings have been the only punitive process initiated thus far, and it is unclear what the outcomes have been. Alaska hasn't

adopted the Uniform Code of Military Justice, which provides for criminal trials and punishment in the regular armed forces. The harshest penalty the Alaska guard can impose is to kick out an offender with an "other-than-honorable" discharge. Crimes can be referred to civilian law enforcement.

Carson's hearing comes amid months of reports about problems in the Alaska National Guard, including a wide-ranging investigation by the Pentagon's National Guard Bureau that found serious leadership failures and sexual misconduct.

The bureau's Office of Complex Investigations singled out the Alaska Army Guard's Recruiting and Retention Battalion, a unit in which higher ranking soldiers

were accused of heavy drinking and pursuing inappropriate relationships with recruits and co-workers.

Only two civilians attended the opening of Carson's hearing in an Alaska National Guard office on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson — an Alaska Dispatch News reporter and her "handler," Kalei Rupp, public information officer at the Alaska Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. The hearing was initially opened to the public under an Army regulation, but during a break after opening statements, the head of the hearing board, Lt. Col. Fred Long of the Idaho National Guard, turned to the two civilians and asked them who they were. A few minutes later, Long told the reporter to leave the room — a demand he

could make under a regulation permitting closed hearings on "classified, inflammatory, or otherwise exceptionally sensitive" subjects.

Carson is accused of having an inappropriate relationship with another soldier in 2008 when both were married to others, and of having an inappropriate relationship in 2011 with a lower-ranked soldier.

Carson denies he did anything wrong.

Carson may not necessarily have been "everybody's best friend," but he is a "great recruiter" and "great leader" who "did not commit any of these allegations," Carson's attorney, Maj. Todd George, told the four-member board that had assembled to decide his client's fate.

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MILITARY

Navy ship maintenance backlog growing

By Mike Hixenbaugh
The (Norfolk) Virginian-Pilot

NORFOLK — The Navy's recent decision to swap two scheduled aircraft carrier deployments revealed a problem plaguing the service: After years of conflict in the Middle East, its aging fleet of warships has been overtaken and under-cared-for, leading to a growing maintenance backlog that threatens its ability to respond to future threats.

Of the warships that entered private and public shipyards for repairs and upgrades last year, fewer than half rejoined the fleet on time and on budget, according to the Navy's analysis. The factors contributing to the delays and overruns are many, and although the Navy has a plan to correct the problem, digging out of the hole likely will take years.

Adm. Jonathan Greenert, chief of naval operations, explained last week how delayed maintenance can have a cascading effect across the fleet, leading to extended deployments, rescheduled or canceled departures — and uncertainty for sailors and their families.

"It starts in the maintenance phase," Greenert told sailors aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Kearsarge during a visit to Norfolk Naval Station. "We need to give you all — and the carriers and the other large ships that need a lot of shipyard time — the time to get the maintenance done so that you're not spilling over into the training phases, which spills over into the preparation for deployment, and then into deployment. Then you're not ready to go, you're not manned, all the maintenance didn't get done, too much was deferred — and you start down a vicious cycle."

The issue came to a head this



RYAN U. KLEDZIK/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Airman Sonja Woolnough, from Dallas, performs maintenance on the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower in July.

month when the Navy announced that after more than a year in the shipyard, the aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower wouldn't be ready to return to the fleet and wouldn't deploy next fall as planned. The aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman, 20 years younger than the Eisenhower, instead will forgo some scheduled maintenance and will deploy in the Eisenhower's place.

The root of the problem, according to Rear Adm. Richard Berkeley, is that for years the Navy has deferred maintenance to

keep ships deployed in support of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Now, as its budget shrinks, the service is trying to catch up on all the work required for ships to reach their expected service lives, said Berkeley, the admiral in charge of maintenance at Fleet Forces Command in Norfolk.

The problem was complicated last year by the across-the-board defense spending cuts demanded by sequestration. For six months after the cuts came down in early 2013, the Navy's public shipyards — including Norfolk Naval

Shipyard in Portsmouth — were forced to impose a hiring freeze and to restrict overtime for civilian employees. That led to a manpower deficit at a time when the shipyards were seeing increased workloads, said Chris Johnson, a spokesman for Naval Sea Systems Command.

The Navy's public shipyards primarily work on nuclear vessels. Because of the manpower shortage, the Eisenhower will remain at Norfolk Naval Shipyard for several months longer than planned. In addition, work on

eight submarines is backlogged, with delays ranging from two to nine months.

Adm. William Hilarides, head of Naval Sea Systems Command, discussed the submarine backlog during a recent defense symposium in northern Virginia. Although the Navy is trying to hire more workers, Hilarides told the audience, there aren't enough qualified workers to meet the demand.

Hilarides suggested that is the new normal for submarines. "We will not catch those schedules back up," he said.

Earlier this year, Fleet Forces Command announced a plan to bring stability to carriers and surface ships. The strategy, known as the Optimized Fleet Response Plan, deploys ships less frequently — once every 36 months instead of once every 32 months. The plan makes seven-month deployments the new standard, as opposed to six-month cruises on paper that often stretched to eight months or longer. It also leaves more time for maintenance.

The new cycle begins next year with aircraft carrier strike groups and will expand across the fleet in the coming years, Berkeley said.

The plan should allow the Navy to catch up on maintenance, Berkeley said, but "there's a transition period that we're going to have to work our way through." The Eisenhower-and-Truman swap is a consequence of that transition, he said.

The Navy's plan to get back on track is contingent upon factors outside its control. Should an overseas crisis demand additional assets, or should the Navy's budget get slashed by another round of sequestration in 2016, more ship shuffling likely would follow.

Airman dies in Germany

Stars and Stripes

An airman assigned to the 86th Airlift Wing at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, died Sunday in Schwedelbach, according to a wing news release.

The airman's name is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

"Our thoughts and condolences go out to the airman's

family, friends and co-workers," Brig. Gen. Patrick X. Mordente, 86th Airlift Wing commander, said.

"Each airman is a valuable member of Team Ramstein, and we deeply grieve for the loss of our wingman."

Other details about the death were unavailable Monday.

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Navy officer from Calif. dies in Qatar

Stars and Stripes

A Navy officer died in a non-combat-related incident at Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar, the Pentagon announced Sunday.

Cmdr. Christopher E. Kalafut, 49, of Oceanside, Calif., was assigned to Naval Amphibious Liaison Element, Combined Forces Air Component Center, U.S. Central Command. Kalafut's Oct. 24

death is under investigation.

Kalafut was stationed at Al Udeid in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Kalafut, of Acworth, Ga., was a reservist and a commercial pilot for Delta Airlines, according to a June 15 story on Father's Day in the Marietta Daily Journal.

His family includes his wife, Mary, and five children, who range in age from 12 to 21, ac-

cording to the story.

"The real story isn't me; it's my wife and kids," Kalafut told the Journal.

"They are truly the unsung heroes for members deployed abroad," he said.

Kalafut graduated from the United States Merchant Marine Academy and later served on active duty in the Navy, according to the Journal.

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MILITARY

Pentagon IG eyes states' systems for online voting

By GREG GORDON

McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Nevada's election chief says the state's much-ballyhooed new system for electronically delivering absentee ballots to troops and other citizens overseas isn't an "online" voting system, even if it offers those abroad the option of emailing marked ballots to county clerks.

But his boss, Nevada Secretary of State Ross Miller, described the system differently in testimony to Congress last year, boasting that it would allow voters abroad "to request, mark and deliver a ballot to their county without the need of a printer or a scanner."

The office of Pentagon Inspector General John Rymer is taking a hard look at systems like Nevada's to see whether they're violating a prohibition on the use of Defense Department grant money to create online voting systems, a spokeswoman for Rymer said. The prohibition was spurred by concerns that those systems are vulnerable to hackers.

Rep. Joe Wilson, R-S.C., chairman of a House Armed Services subcommittee on military personnel, and the panel's ranking Democrat, California Rep. Susan Davis, wrote to Rymer last June requesting "a full and thorough investigation" to determine whether they're designed to return votes electronically.

So far, the inspector general's office said, Rymer has ordered only an "assessment" of whether grant recipients are skirting the rules — a review not previously disclosed.

At Wilson's and Davis' request, the inspector general's office also is examining how an obscure Pentagon unit, whose task is to facilitate absentee voting overseas, spent \$85 million in research funding from 2009 to 2013, Rymer's office said.

The Pentagon's Federal Voting Assistance Program gave much of that money in grants to states and counties for voting system upgrades in what has become

a race to capitalize on technology that makes it easier for troops stationed overseas to cast their ballots. About 30 states, most of which received grants from the program, have developed some form of online voting.

The problem is that numerous cybersecurity experts warn that votes cast over the Internet, including through email, are vulnerable to vote tampering or even large-scale schemes to rig elections. Another drawback is that they do not create a verifiable paper trail in the event of a recount, as do many state electronic voting systems.

In 2004, Congress stopped Pentagon funding for online voting until the National Institute of Standards and Technology concluded it was secure. The agency has yet to issue an all-clear signal, stating in 2012 that secure Internet voting is not yet feasible.

Some states have seemed to ignore the red light, and the Voting Assistance Program under its former director, Bob Carey, was accused of encouraging them — allegations Carey has denied.

The program said Friday that "this is no directive from Congress that expressly prohibits online voting" until the National Institute of Standards and Technology "signs off," but that it has "expressly" barred use of grant money for that purpose because of the lack of federal security standards.

Voting system vendors and a number of states easily circumvented its initial prohibition, imposed in 2012, on use of grant money to electronically return marked ballots. It cost nothing to email the ballots or little for states to buy an added feature providing for their electronic return.

John Sebes, chief technology officer for the California-based Open Source Election Technology Foundation, said email is "the most convenient and least secure transport mechanism," and that there are multiple ways for hackers to tamper with the process.

ISAF Afghan mission clarified

Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — The NATO coalition said on Monday that the main goal of the post-2014 mission in Afghanistan will remain training, advising and assisting Afghan security forces, despite discussion over possible continued air support.

"The focus for NATO and U.S. forces during Resolute Support will be to train, advise, and assist ANSF as agreed upon in the NATO Status of Forces Agreement and U.S. Security Defense and Cooperation Agreement," International Security Assistance Force spokesman Lt. Col. Chris Belcher told Stars and Stripes. "The exact levels of aviation support beyond train, advise and assist are still under discussion."

On Sunday, ISAF officials, as

well as the Afghan Ministry of Defense, told Stars and Stripes that coalition air forces could still provide some form of air support if requested by Afghan forces. The Afghan air force has grown and is carrying out regular missions, but it is still several years away from being able to fully operate on its own, according to Afghan defense officials.

NATO leaders have emphasized that the coalition's official combat role in Afghanistan will end in December. Afghan forces have taken increasingly heavy casualties as they've more independently fought a stubborn insurgency, and both Western and Afghan officials have called for continued international aid.

news@stripes.com



MASSOUD HOSSAIN/AP

An Afghan National Army soldier fires blanks as other soldiers observe during an exercise Wednesday at the Kabul Military Training Center in Afghanistan. A U.S. Senate committee report on future funding for Afghanistan cites as a particular concern possible human rights violations by Afghan security forces.

US Afghan reconstruction funding may get conditions

By TIM CRAIG

The Washington Post

KABUL, Afghanistan — Senate Democrats plan to keep supporting Afghanistan's reconstruction, but the spending must be linked to human rights reforms and closer scrutiny of whether the country can maintain its new programs and buildings, says a congressional report due to be released Monday.

The report, compiled by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's Democratic majority staff, is designed to be a road map for Afghan leaders eager to keep billions of dollars in U.S. assistance flowing into the country.

The committee's recommendations were timed for release at the conclusion of Afghanistan's contested, yearlong election to replace outgoing President Hamid Karzai. In late September, after months of tension over the results of a June runoff, President Ashraf Ghani and second-place finisher Abdullah Abdullah agreed to form a unity government.

The report warns Ghani and Abdullah, the country's chief executive officer, that Congress plans to monitor whom they install in government.

"A higher proportion of U.S. assistance should be conditioned based on specific reforms by the Afghan government," says the report, a copy of which was obtained by The Washington Post. "The U.S. should make clear to the new government that the appointment

Taliban attack kills 10 in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan

— An Afghan official said a Taliban attack on a prosecutor's office killed at least 10 people and wounded 10.

The deputy governor of Kunduz province, Hamdulah Danishi, said the four-hour battle happened Monday. He said it began when a suicide bomber detonated an explosives-filled vest and blew up a car at the gate of the compound in Kunduz city.

Danishi said three gunmen stormed the compound and killed seven prosecutors, two police officers and one civilian.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed the attack and said it was punishment for recent death sentences handed to Taliban prisoners.

From The Associated Press

process factors into how the U.S. allocates assistance."

However, the report makes it clear that the Democratic majority remains committed to funding what is already the costliest U.S.-backed reconstruction effort.

Since the fall of the Taliban in

2001, the U.S. government has appropriated \$104 billion for rebuilding and supporting the Afghan government, military and public services. And though most coalition troops are to withdraw from Afghanistan this year, the United States is expected to keep giving \$5 billion to \$8 billion annually for as long as a decade.

Neither the Afghan government nor the Obama administration should view congressional support as open-ended, the report states. Specifically, it calls for future spending to be linked to the country's ability to curtail corruption, combat its worsening illegal drug trade and improve its record on human rights.

The committee is particularly concerned by a recent U.N. report that says Afghan security forces have been responsible for civilian casualties, torture, beatings and theft of personal property.

"If found complicit of serious human rights violations, American support for" Afghan security forces "could diminish significantly and rapidly," it warns.

Most analysts expect that Congress will remain fairly steadfast in its support of Afghanistan. Within days of taking office, Ghani signed a security agreement allowing about 10,000 American troops to remain after this year.

But the report outlines concern that U.S. taxpayers are funding tens of millions in services and buildings that the Afghan government won't be able to maintain.

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WAR ON TERRORISM



PHOTOS BY JOSHUA L. DeMOTT/Stars and Stripes

Refugees seeking asylum from the violence in Syria and other regions of the Mideast are being temporarily housed in a building, center right, on Patton Barracks, a former U.S. Army installation that currently sits vacant in Heidelberg, Germany.



Refugees pass the time outside a building where they are temporarily housed.



Clothes hang out to dry on a fence at the barracks.

Germany offers asylum-seekers safety from violence at former US Army post in Heidelberg

By MATT MILLHAM
Stars and Stripes

HEIDELBERG, Germany — Hundreds of refugees are taking temporary shelter in a former U.S. Army post here as Germany scrambles to handle a flood of asylum-seekers from wars in the Middle East and Africa.

A little more than a year ago, Patton Barracks was the neatly groomed headquarters of U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg. As the U.S. military bombs Islamic State fighters in Iraq and Syria, the old base's fences are now festooned with the drying laundry of people who have fled the violence.

It is not as comfortable as a regular home, said Benjamin Majer, who works for Germany's national reception center for refugees in Karlsruhe, "but the people have rooms where we can accommodate the families together. They have all you need."

Since opening in mid-September, the military base-turned-refugee center has housed up to about 500 refugees on any given day, Majer said. He expects about 1,400 refugees will cycle through the facility before operations are moved to a former Army barracks south of Stuttgart in mid-November.

"A very large group of them are from Syria," he said, and there have also been large numbers from Afghanistan, Pakistan, the former Yugoslavia and eastern Africa. The base has also housed a small number of Iraqis.

Meals are served in a former gymnasium where a sign in the colors of the old high school — blue and yellow — reads, in English, "Welcome to Heidelberg." The base itself is named after Gen. George S. Patton, the famous World War II general who

revolutionized armored warfare. More recently, in 2007, members of the U.S. Army's V Corps' command group reunited with their families in the gym after a year in Iraq.

The base, part of the former Heidelberg garrison, closed last year as the Army pulled out of the city. V Corps

inactivated last summer after one last deployment to Afghanistan.

That history is all but lost on those staying here now.

Majd, 31, a Syrian asylum-seeker who arrived in Germany in late September, said

it was obvious the old base had been an American facility of some sort. It has a basketball court and a baseball diamond, but no soccer field, which was a giveaway, he said.

For the time being, he doesn't mind sleeping on the stiff military cots the Germans have provided. The meals aren't quite what he and other Syrians here are accustomed to, he said, but he won't complain.

"After all, what we seek is just safety," said Majd, who declined to give his last name to protect his family still in Syria. "And here, we feel safety and we are thankful."

In the first half of 2014, Germany registered 65,700 new asylum applications, according to the U.N. Refugee Agency — more than any other country during that time period. The crush has overwhelmed Germany's abil-

ity to process refugees and get them into temporary housing while their asylum claims are processed.

The center at Patton Barracks "was kind of improvised," Majer said. "We had very large numbers of refugees to accommodate in Karlsruhe, but it was too much for us."

The city of Heidelberg offered up the old base as a temporary solution. Refugees stay here for three to four days before they are moved to other accommodations, Majer said.

The refugees aren't confined to the barracks, but with little money, few wander very far from the installation.

Inside, women hand-clean clothes in makeshift laundry facilities and hang the items to dry on temporary fences separating the two buildings used for the refugees from the rest of the empty base. Boys and young men play soccer on the baseball diamond using goals made from scraps of wood and concrete. Men huddle in groups, chatting and chain-smoking. Meals help break up the monotony.

"It's not very comfortable," Majer said, "but it is only for a short period of time."

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WAR ON TERRORISM



AHMED AL-HUSSEINI/AP

Mourners chant slogans against the Islamic State group during the funeral procession of members of Iraq's Special Weapons and Tactics Team and Shiite militiamen in the Shiite holy city of Karbala, 50 miles south of Baghdad.

Suicide bomber kills at least 24 near Baghdad

By SINAN SALAHEDDIN
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A suicide car bomber driving a military Humvee struck a checkpoint manned by Iraqi troops and pro-government Shiite militiamen south of Baghdad on Monday, killing at least 24 people, officials said. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, which took place on the outskirts of the Sunni town of Jurf al-Sakhar, 30 miles south of Baghdad, but the bombing bore all the hallmarks of the Islamic State group.

The militants lost control of the town only the previous day, when Iraqi soldiers and the Shiite militia retook Jurf al-Sakhar from the Sunni extremist group.

The Islamic State had seized the town in July as part of its blitz earlier this year during which it captured large swaths of northern and western Iraq.

In Monday's attack, the bomber rammed his explosives-laden Humvee into the checkpoint, killing at least 24 people and wounding 25, a police officer said. Most of those killed were members of the Shiite militia, he said.

Two medical officials confirmed the casualty figures. All officials spoke on condition of

anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to media.

In the wake of the Islamic State's advances, Shiite militias in the country have answered the call by Iraq's top Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, to join government forces in the fight against the Sunni extremists.

Jurf al-Sakhar is part of a predominantly Sunni ribbon of territory that runs just south of Baghdad and lies on a road usually taken by Shiite pilgrims when they head in droves to the holy Shiite city of Karbala farther to the south.

Pilgrims will be taking the route again next week to commemorate the death of the Prophet Muhammad's grandson, Imam Hussein — one of the most revered Shiite martyrs.

The shocking offensive by the Islamic State, which captured not just territories in Iraq but also roughly a third of neighboring Syria, has plunged Iraq into its worst crisis since U.S. troops left at the end of 2011.

Since August, U.S. warplanes have been carrying out airstrikes against the group as Iraqi and Kurdish security forces work to retake seized territory.

US official urges allies to combat militant ideology

By HUSSAIN AL-QATARI
AND ADAM SCHRECK
The Associated Press

KUWAIT CITY, Kuwait — The United States is pressing Arab nations and other allies to do more to counter the Islamic State group's slick propaganda campaign, with a top American envoy on Monday describing efforts to combat the extremist messages as a vital pillar in the fight to defeat the group.

The Islamic State — which has seized large parts of Iraq and Syria and declared a self-styled caliphate, or Islamic empire, in areas under its control — embraces social media platforms such as Twitter and YouTube.

Hollywood-style film clips and other elements of its media campaign boost the group's credibility among disaffected but plugged-in young Muslims and helps it promote its conquests, inspire sympathizers and attract new recruits.

Speaking at a gathering of anti-Islamic State coalition partners in the oil-rich Gulf nation of Kuwait, retired U.S. Gen. John Allen said it is up to all members of the alliance to "clearly, forcefully and consistently" reject the group's ideology and offer alternatives to it.

Allen, who is tasked with coordinating the U.S.-led coalition, characterized the fight in the communications sphere as a crucial element of an overall strategy that also includes confronting the group militarily and attempting to cut off its finances.

"It is only when we contest ISIL's presence online, deny the legitimacy of the message it sends to vulnerable young people and expose ISIL for the un-Islamic cult of violence it really is ... that ISIL will truly be defeated," he said, using an alternate acronym for the group.

The Islamic State group produces online magazines and polished propaganda videos that make use of multiple camera angles, computer graphics and sophisticated editing techniques.

One video released by its Al-Furqan media arm earlier this year included aerial footage apparently shot from a drone over the Iraqi city of Fallujah, which it now holds. In another twist, the group cast a British journalist it holds, John Cantlie, as a sort of talk-show host speaking in a series of videos about the group.

Allen was joined in Kuwait by Undersecretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs Richard Stengel, who told reporters that an "information coalition" is needed to complement the military campaign.

"Whatever we do collectively on the battlefield needs to be amplified on the information battlefield," Stengel said.

Washington is also trying to find ways to choke off the group's finances, which are estimated to include earnings of about \$1 million a day from black market oil sales alone. The group also makes money from extortion rackets and other criminal enterprises.

While the group is not believed to rely heavily on outside donations, American officials have urged Kuwait and Qatar, in particular, to do more to stop private fundraising for extremists.

"We need to work with all of our partners in the region to close down formal and informal sources of support," Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew said during a visit to Cairo on Monday.

'Whatever we do collectively on the battlefield needs to be amplified on the information battlefield.'

Richard Stengel
undersecretary of state for Public Diplomacy and Policy Affairs

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NATION

Lava forces Hawaiians to get ready to flee

The Associated Press

Molten lava from a volcano in Hawaii is pushing closer to a rural area, closing the main road and triggering warnings that residents might need to leave their homes at any time.

Dozens of people in the path of the flow were told to prepare for a possible evacuation, Hawaii County Civil Defense said in an advisory Sunday night. No evacuations had yet been ordered.

The Red Cross said it was opening a shelter to aid any evacuees.

Authorities said late Sunday that lava flow on the Big Island of Hawaii had picked up speed, advancing about 170 yards since 9 a.m. and moving at a rate of about 15 to 20 yards an hour.

The flow that has been threatening Pahoa, the largest town in the mostly rural region of Puna on the Big Island, began in June. It's been moving toward town in fits and starts for weeks, speeding up and then slowing down.

The flow came within less than a half-mile of Pahoa Village Road, the main street of Pahoa, leading officials to close it to all but local residents. The flow front also passed through a cemetery, covering grave sites.

Darryl Oliveira, director of civil defense for Hawaii County, told reporters during a Sunday morning teleconference that the nearest home was at least 300 yards from the flow front.

Residents in the nearest home said they could see the flow front from their balcony and were prepared to evacuate when the time came, Oliveira said.

Authorities went door to door notifying residents to be ready to evacuate.

The flow stems from the Kilauea volcano, which has been erupting continuously since 1983. Most lava from this eruption has flowed south, while the lava has flowed to the northeast over the past two years.



U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY/AP

Lava flow advances across the pasture between the Pahoa cemetery and Apsa Street, engulfing a barbed wire fence, near the town of Pahoa on the Big Island of Hawaii on Saturday.

3rd student dies in school shooting

The Associated Press

MARYSVILLE, Wash. — A 14-year-old girl who was wounded when a student opened fire inside a Washington state high school has died, raising the death toll in the shooting to three, including the gunman.

Gia Soriano died Sunday night, more than two days after she was shot, officials at Providence Regional Medical Center Everett said.

"We are devastated by this senseless tragedy," her family said in a statement, read at a news conference by Dr. Joanne Roberts. "Gia is our beautiful daughter, and words cannot express how much we will miss her."

Roberts said Gia's family was donating her organs for transplant.

Another girl, who hasn't been officially identified, was killed Friday when a popular freshman at Marysville-Pilchuck High School north of Seattle opened fire. The shooter, Jaylen Fryberg, died at the scene of a self-inflicted wound.

Three other students remain hospitalized, two in critical condition and one in serious condition.

Earlier Sunday, parents and students gathered in a gymnasium



LINDSEY WASSON, THE SEATTLE TIMES/AP

Candles, flowers and messages of support appear on the stage in front of morning services at The Grove Church in Marysville, Wash., two days after Friday's Marysville-Pilchuck High School shooting.

at the school for a community meeting, with speakers urging support and prayers and tribal members playing drums and singing songs. Fryberg was from a prominent family from the Tulalip Indian tribes.

"We just have to reach for that human spirit right now," said Deborah Parker, a tribal member.

Of the wounded students, only Nate Hatch, 14, showed improvement, though he remained in serious condition in intensive care

at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle. Andrew Fryberg, 15, also was in critical condition in intensive care. Both are cousins of Jaylen Fryberg.

Shaylee Chuckulnaskit, 14, remained in critical condition in intensive care at Providence Regional Medical Center.

Fryberg died in the attack after a first-year teacher intervened. It's unclear if he intentionally killed himself or if the gun went off in a struggle with a teacher.

Suspect in police killings used multiple identities

The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Luis Enrique Monroy-Bracamonte was living in the U.S. illegally. He had been convicted in Arizona for selling drugs and he had been deported to Mexico twice.

His background would have almost certainly flagged him to be expelled from the country again. But he appeared to be living quietly with his wife in a suburb of Salt Lake City until being arrested Friday, accused of going on a shooting rampage in Northern California that left two sheriff's deputies dead.

Investigators were trying to determine how he avoided scrutiny.

The suspect said he was Marcelo Marquez, 34, of Salt Lake City when he was taken into custody, but his fingerprints matched biometric records of Monroy-Bracamonte in a federal database, said U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement spokeswoman Virginia Kice. He was first removed from the country in 1997 after a conviction for possession of drugs for sale in Arizona, then arrested and repatriated to Mexico again in 2001.

Sacramento County Sheriff

Scott Jones told The Sacramento Bee on Sunday that he may have lived under multiple identities and that he may have had troubles with the law under another name.

Mauro Marquez, his father-in-law, told the Los Angeles Times that he always knew him as Luis Monroy and said his son-in-law worked as a house painter. He said the couple moved to Utah a couple years after marrying about 14 years ago in Arizona.

Janelle Marquez Monroy, 38, was arrested on suspicion of attempted murder and carjacking on Friday. Police said she was with her husband during most of the crime spree, which began when Sacramento County Sheriff's Deputy Danny Oliver, 47, was shot in the forehead as he checked out a suspicious car. He was later pronounced dead.

The couple allegedly led authorities on a six-hour chase that included two carjackings. Two deputies who approached the couple on a road were shot with an AR-15-type assault weapon, police said. One of them, Homicide Detective Michael David Davis Jr., 42, died at a hospital.

New home test that looks for related DNA shakes up colon cancer screening

The Associated Press

Starting Monday, millions of people who have avoided colon cancer screenings can get a new home test that's noninvasive and doesn't require the icky preparation most other methods do.

The test is the first to look for cancer-related DNA in the stool. But deciding whether to get it is a more complex choice than ads for

"the breakthrough test... that's as easy as going to the bathroom" make it seem. On one hand, the test could greatly boost screening for a deadly disease that too few people get checked for now.

On the other hand, it could lure people away from colonoscopies and other tests that, unlike the new one, have been shown to save lives. It might even do both.

"It looks promising," but its im-

pact on cancer risk and survival isn't known, said Dr. Barnett Kramer, a National Cancer Institute screening expert.

The test was approved by the Food and Drug Administration in August and will be offered by prescription at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, where it was developed, starting Monday, with Medicare reimbursement. It has been sold through a website and

private practice doctors since its approval for people willing to pay for it themselves. It's called ColoGuard and is sold by Exact Sciences Corp. of Madison, Wis. Mayo Clinic and one of its doctors get royalties from the test.

ColoGuard was not directly tested against colonoscopy for screening but now is being marketed as an alternative.

"Colonoscopy is the gold stan-

dard," but the new test "is pretty darn good" at detecting cancer, though it misses more pre-cancers than previous studies of colonoscopy show, said Dr. Harold "Hal" Sox, a Dartmouth professor who formerly headed the preventive services task force.

More than 143,000 new colorectal cancer cases and 52,000 deaths from the disease are expected this year in the U.S. alone.

EBOLA OUTBREAK

Extra precautions for personnel at Ramstein

By JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — Ramstein Air Base officials are implementing extra precautions for personnel returning from Ebola-afflicted regions in West Africa, procedures that in some situations are more stringent than those required by the Defense Department or recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Steps include directing Ramstein personnel involved with Operation Unified Assistance to have their temperature checked twice daily at the base medical clinic for 21 days, even if they've had no known exposure to the Ebola virus, 86th Airlift Wing officials said at a town hall meeting Monday.

Temperatures of personnel returning from Germany are initially taken plane side, before anyone leaves the flight line, and then again at a separate screening location. Passengers traveling further must also be cleared for flight.

Some restrictions on movement also could be placed on military members with a "low risk" of exposure to Ebola, even if they are asymptomatic. But any "quarantine" would need to be determined on a case-by-case, by-risk basis, according to Col. Brian Agee, the wing's public health emergency officer.

"Quarantine of a healthy person is not to be taken lightly," he said.

The rules Ramstein has put in place differ from the approaches being taken in New York and New Jersey, which have come

under scrutiny for their handling of Ebola-related cases in recent weeks.

Late last week, New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie and New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced their states would require a 21-day hospital quarantine of health care workers who had spent time in Africa caring for Ebola patients. On Monday, however, both states announced that they would ease those restrictions and allow medical professionals who had contact with Ebola patients to be quarantined at home instead.

Because airmen from Ramstein have been delivering aid and medical supplies to African nations battling the disease, the wing scheduled four town hall meetings to discuss protocols established so that the local military and host-nation community wouldn't be inadvertently exposed. Officials are urging the base populace to be informed about the disease, which has so far killed nearly 5,000 people, mostly in West Africa, according to the latest CDC figures.

Agee said it's important to "have a healthy respect for this enemy, but not blind fear."

Airmen assigned to the wing are providing logistical support to the U.S.-led effort to eradicate Ebola in West Africa, mainly by airlifting supplies to the region. Other personnel involved in Operation Unified Assistance, including military members not assigned to Ramstein, DOD civilians and other federal government workers, may also transit through Ramstein on military aircraft en route to other destinations.

As of Friday, less than 50 people had



SARA KELLER/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

Airman 1st Class Mark Underhill has his temperature taken by Tech. Sgt. Saquedra Crosby, right, as Lt. Col. Juan Ramirez logs the information at a passenger holding facility at Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

come through Ramstein from the region, base officials said.

So far, no one considered at "low risk" of exposure to Ebola has traveled to Ramstein, Agee said. That category covers anyone who had close, household-type contact with an Ebola patient or someone who cared for an Ebola patient while not wearing the recommended protective gear.

Military members with a "low risk" of exposure to Ebola could be restricted to base or told to avoid any large public gatherings Agee said. Those determinations would be decided on a case-by-case basis, he said.

Agee said confirmed cases, suspected cases and "high risk" exposures would not be flown back to Germany.

Whether someone presenting with symptoms after returning to Germany was sick from Ebola could be determined quickly,

Agee said. The only definitive test for the virus is a blood test, Landstuhl Regional Medical Center can get test results within four to six hours, Agee said.

If the results were positive, the decision on where to hospitalize would be the call of a local German doctor, Christiane Steinebrei, the public health commissioner for the county of Kaiserslautern, even if the patient was in the military. Agee noted that the hospital in Frankfurt has four beds to treat Ebola patients; there are three other facilities throughout Germany equipped to provide that level of care, he said.

Air crews in transit back and forth between Germany and West Africa are instructed to self-monitor and report their status twice per week until their mission is complete, officials noted.

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NJ nurse who protested 2-day quarantine is released

The Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — A nurse who protested being kept in a tent in New Jersey for two days despite lacking symptoms after caring for Ebola patients in West Africa was to be released Monday as scientists and federal officials clashed with state officials over quarantine policies.

Kaci Hickox, the nurse forced into quarantine Friday after arriving from Sierra Leone, was being flown on a private carrier

to Maine, New Jersey's Health Department said. An agency statement said she'd been symptom-free for 24 hours; Hickox said she never had symptoms and tested negative for Ebola in a preliminary evaluation.

She called her treatment "inhumane" and was talking about suing. Hickox was the first person affected by New Jersey's mandatory 21-day quarantine for medical workers returning from West Africa. New York and Illinois announced similar plans,

even though scientists say the restrictions go too far and could hamper global efforts to contain the outbreak.

When she has time to reflect, she'll understand," New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie said at a campaign event in Florida on Monday.

Christie and New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo called federal health guidelines inadequate when they announced their quarantine plans on Friday, only to find themselves under fire through the weekend

from members of the medical community and the White House.

"The best way to protect us is to stop the epidemic in Africa, and we need those health care workers, so we do not want to put them in a position where it makes it very, very uncomfortable for them to even volunteer to go," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

The three governors said their policies permit home confine-

ment, with twice-daily monitoring, for medical workers who have had contact with Ebola patients but show no symptoms.

Maryland officials announced a similar measure Monday: They will require anyone considered to have "high-risk exposure," which they defined as known, unprotected contact with bodily fluids from someone infected with Ebola, to stay home and have daily contact with health officials until they're Ebola-free.

Isolation: Pentagon says Army made decision out of 'an abundance of caution'

FROM FRONT PAGE

"Several dozen" more will arrive soon from Liberia and will also be kept away from family and other military personnel, Pentagon spokesman Col. Steve Warren told reporters.

Warren said he was avoiding using the term "quarantine" because he said it has specific medical meanings. The 21-day isolation order, which was issued by the Department of the Army, was made out of "an abundance of caution," Warren said.

"None of these individuals have shown any symptoms of exposure," he told reporters. "There have been no incidents that lead us to that concern. ... That said, obviously they've been in Liberia for some time now."

mid-September to oversee the U.S. operation to combat the virus, which has since grown to about 700 U.S. troops providing mainly logistical and engineering support. More than 3,000 more could soon be headed to the country to assist.

In a satellite briefing from the Liberian capital, Monrovia, earlier this month, Williams said he had been traveling around the country to oversee the building of Ebola treatment units as well as the operations of several mobile laboratories conducting blood tests of those suspected to have the virus.

Williams said that in addition to following a strict hygiene regimen, he and his troops were not in contact with Ebola patients and were avoiding close physical con-

tact with locals. As a result, the troops face "very low to no risk," Williams said.

More troops will be returning to Vicenza in the coming days and they will be subject to the same isolation protocols, according to Warren. He said he thought soldiers who return directly to the United States after completing their deployments to West Africa will also be isolated, he but deferred to Army officials on those decisions.

Troops from bases throughout the U.S. are slated to participate in Operation Unified Assistance in the coming months.

The Army's decision appears to go beyond the requirements of a recently released DOD policy that governs post-deployment monitoring of troops coming home from

Ebola-ravaged zones.

The Oct. 10 memo from Jessica L. Wright, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, requires 21 days of quarantine for individuals evacuated from the theater because of "elevated exposure risk." But those who have faced no known exposure are required only to submit to an interview to check for symptoms and to twice-daily temperature monitoring by unit leaders or health care personnel.

A decision by governors of Illinois, New Jersey and New York to institute quarantines for aid workers returning from Ebola-stricken West Africa drew criticism from Obama administration officials that the measures weren't grounded in science.

Warren said any decision to implement the Army's tighter

restrictions forcetoward would be made by Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel.

"We're continuously reviewing our policies," Warren said. "This is an evolving situation."

White House press secretary Josh Earnest said the Pentagon's policies are expected to change.

As needed, they will continue to put in place policies they believe best protect members of the military and members of the public back here in the United States as well," he told reporters Monday. "It's clear ... that the Department of Defense policy has not been settled and implemented yet. ... That will be a decision that's driven by a variety of operational factors."

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WORLD



EVGENY MALOETKA/AP

A woman registers her name before casting her vote Sunday during parliamentary elections at a polling station in Konstantinivka, in the Donetsk region of eastern Ukraine.

Ukrainians favor reform

Pro-Western parties leading parliamentary election

By PETER LEONARD
The Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — With more than one-third of the votes counted, two allied pro-European parties in Ukraine that ran on a platform to enact tough reforms took a joint lead Monday in a parliamentary election.

Partial figures showed Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk's Popular Front with 21.6 percent of the vote, and President Petro Poroshenko's party at 21.5 percent.

Poroshenko said after Sunday's election that he wanted Western-oriented parties elected to quickly form a broad reformist coalition. Negotiations on forming that coalition were expected to begin Monday and be completed within 10 days.

A recently formed pro-European party based in western Ukraine, Samchuk, was running third with almost 11 percent of the vote.

The vote has led to an overhaul of a parliament once dominated by loyalists of former President Viktor Yanukovich, who sparked the protests that caused his ouster with a decision to deepen ties with Russia. Anti-Russian sentiment has spiked in Ukraine as the country battles with separatists in the east who many believe are supported by Moscow.

As a result, the election has fa-



EFREM LUKATSKY/AP

Darth Vader, previously known as Viktor Shvchenko, the leader of the Ukrainian Internet Party, holds up his Ukrainian passport and a certificate of candidacy for the parliamentary election.

vored the chances of parties with staunchly pro-Western or nationalist agendas.

Nonetheless, the Opposition Bloc, which pundits believe largely drew its support from Yanukovich's once-ruling Party of Regions, has put in a strong showing of 9.8 percent, with around 33

percent of the vote counted.

Poroshenko last month laid out an ambitious agenda envisioning root-and-branch changes to the justice system, police, tax system, defense sector and health care to be completed by 2020.

Corruption has been a big issue in Ukraine in recent months and was one of the main seeds of the discontent that precipitated Yanukovich's downfall.

Among the tougher decisions likely to lie ahead will be allowing costs of basic utilities in the cash-strapped country to float in line with market demands. With the economy in a freefall this year, there is no imminent sense of a surge of prosperity that could temper policies that would prove agonizing to bear for the poor.

International observers from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe were due to share a preliminary assessment of the election later Monday.

While around 36 million people were registered to vote, no voting was held on the Crimean Peninsula, which was annexed by Russia in March, or in parts of Ukraine's easternmost regions of Donetsk and Luhansk, where shelling remains a daily constant. The fight against armed separatists on the border with Russia has claimed the lives of more than 3,600 people.

was still flowing in.

"We have a picture forming, and we are not as optimistic as last night," said Yusra Ghannouchi, a spokeswoman for the party.

The election, in which 60 percent of Tunisia's 5.2 million registered voters participated, will produce the nation's first five-year parliament following the country's 2011 Arab Spring revolt. Presidential elections are set for late November.

Created as an explicit counterbalance to the Islamists after their 2011 election victory, Nida Tunis includes businessmen, trade unionists and many politicians from the deposed dictator Zine El Abidine Ben Ali's government.

Toronto voters look to close out Rob Ford era

By ROB GILLIES
The Associated Press

TORONTO — A moderate conservative is favored to win Toronto's mayoral election Monday, with many residents eager to close out the Rob Ford era characterized by crack-smoking, public drunkenness and outrageous behavior.

Ford announced last month that he would not seek re-election as he battles a rare and difficult form of cancer. His brother, city councillor Doug Ford, is running in his place but is widely expected to lose to John Tory, wealthy former chief executive of cable company Rogers Communications.

Analysts say Olivia Chow, a leftist candidate and the widow of late popular Canadian politician Jack Layton, seems to have lost momentum as a candidate as people look to vote strategically to ensure Doug Ford doesn't win.

City Councillor Jay Robinson, a one-time Ford ally who is now supporting Tory, said folks just want to make sure a Ford isn't mayor.

"People are literally counting down. Every door I go to, they are counting down. They are feeling that this is going to be transformative moment in our city where we right the ship, we focus on city building and we leave the side-show, the circus, the distractions behind," Robinson said.

Tory, 60, a longtime politician and adviser, also served as commissioner of the Canadian Football League and, more recently, hosted a radio talk show. He ran for mayor in 2003 and lost.

A record 161,147 people turned out for early voting this month, more than double the number in

the last election, in 2010. Among them was Kaye Wilkinson, a retiree who lives in Etobicoke, the middle-class western Toronto suburb that is home to the Ford family.

"We have to get rid of the Fords. I don't care who is running," Wilkinson said.

Ford's four-year tenure as mayor of Canada's largest city was marred by his drinking problems and illegal drug use.

'We have to get rid of the Fords. I don't care who is running.'

Kaye Wilkinson
Toronto resident

After months of denials, the mayor in 2013 acknowledged he had smoked crack cocaine in one of his "drunk-on stupors," but he refused to resign. The City Council

stripped Ford of most of his powers but lacked the authority to force him out of office because he wasn't convicted of a crime.

Ford announced he was entering rehab for drugs and alcohol in April after newspaper reports detailed three nights in which he was extremely intoxicated. One report was about a video that appeared to show him smoking a crack pipe again — nearly a year after reports of a similar video first brought international attention.

When Ford was elected mayor in 2010, his drug and alcohol use wasn't known — but his bluster was. A plurality of voters backed him, eager to shake things up at a city hall they viewed as elitist and wasteful.

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Tunisia's secular party claims election victory

By PAUL SCHEM
The Associated Press

TUNIS, Tunisia — Tunisia's main secular opposition party was claiming victory on Monday over once-dominant Islamists in the country's historic parliamentary elections.

Partial results from the official election commission were expected to be released throughout the day Monday, but the Nida Tunis (Tunis Calls) party cited exit polls to say it has won more seats than any other party in the 217-member parliament.

"According to the information we have, we should have around 80 seats," said Aida Klibi, a party spokeswoman.

The assertion was based in part on exit polls conducted by two Tunisian polling companies giving Nida Tunis 37 percent of the seats, compared with 26 percent for the moderate Islamist Ennahda (Renaissance Party), which had dominated previous elections.

If the polls are confirmed by the election commission, it would be a dramatic reversal for Ennahda, which had held 42 percent of the seats in the interim parliament and ruled the country for two stormy years in a coalition with two other liberal parties.

Ennahda acknowledged that Nida Tunis "probably" won more seats than any other party, but said information about the results

WORLD

New Afghanistan president to head to China

BY LYNNE O'DONNELL
The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — The new Afghan president travels to China this week, signaling the pivotal role he hopes Beijing will play in Afghanistan's future, not only in the economic reconstruction of the war-ravaged country after U.S. and allied combat troops leave by the end of the year but also in a strategic foreign policy aimed at building peace across a region long riven by mistrust and violence.

Ashraf Ghani will leave Kabul on Tuesday for a three-day visit to China, where he will meet President Xi Jinping, as well as potential investors to bankroll Afghanistan's development as it emerges from 30 years of war impoverished, wracked by corruption and still struggling to contain the Taliban insurgency.

He will lead a delegation of Afghan businessmen at a summit where he hopes to attract Chinese investment to develop a mining industry as the bedrock of the economy after more than a decade of dependence on international military and aid largesse. He will also attend the multilateral Istanbul Ministerial Process to discuss regional security, economic and political issues.

Since he was sworn into office in late September, the president's



MASSOUD HOSSAINI/AP

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, exiting car, arrives for a news conference with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan at the presidential palace in Kabul, Afghanistan, on Oct. 18.

first trip abroad was to Saudi Arabia on Saturday on a religious pilgrimage, fulfilling an election promise.

The visit to China demonstrates Ghani's intention of utilizing

Afghanistan's natural resources as a trade-off for infrastructure and industry, to reverse the rapid decline in economic growth since the United States and its allies began withdrawing troops two

years ago. Economic growth is seen falling to 1.5 percent this year, the World Bank said; 2013 growth was 3.7 percent, down from 9.4 percent the year before.

China is one of the world's big-

gest supporters of resource-rich developing countries, notably in Africa, where it funds development while taking large stakes in mineral assets. Its interest is similar in Afghanistan, where it has already dabbled in mining but learned the hard way that investment in Afghanistan cannot be undertaken without considering security.

The country has an estimated \$3 trillion worth of natural resources, including copper, iron ore, silver, gold, coal, gems and minor metals such as chromite. Little has been exploited because there is no infrastructure and war wages on. China is active in oil production in the north of Afghanistan.

After committing to a \$3 billion deal to develop a 5 million-ton copper deposit at Mes Aynak, near Kabul in Logar province, Chinese state-run consortium MCC pulled out its workers last year after they came under Taliban fire. The 2007 contract has since been renegotiated and work has yet to resume.

Nevertheless, the Mes Aynak contract provides a template for mining development as it initially included road and rail links, processing plants, power generation and employment for local people.

India is eyeing a \$10 billion investment in iron ore in central Bamiyan province.

Clash in Yemen kills 250 in 3 days

BY AHMED AL-HAJ
The Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen — Fighting in central Yemen between Shiite Houthi rebels and an influential tribe in the town of Radda killed at least 250 people during three days of clashes, security officials said Monday.

The violence in Yemen's central Badia province saw fighters from the strong Qifa tribe force the Houthis out of the Manasir area in Radda, said the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity as they weren't authorized to speak to journalists.

Last week, the Houthis entered Radda, some 125 miles south of the capital, Sanaa, after the commander of the army's Battalion 193 gave up their positions. The commander is said to be a loyalist of the ousted President Ali Abdullah Saleh, who was deposed after the country's 2011 uprising.

The Houthis, widely suspected of having links to Shiite pow-



HANI MOHAMMED/AP

An armed Houthi Shiite rebel sits on a wall while guarding a street in Sanaa, Yemen, on Oct. 20

erhouse Iran, gained control of Sanaa in September and have waged ongoing battles with opposing tribes and militants from al-Qaida's Yemen branch. A peace agreement signed between the Houthis and the government so far has failed to end the fighting.

Meanwhile, Yemeni President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi has lashed out at the Houthis for the first time since they seized Sanaa.

"The armed expansion of the Houthis in several provinces and areas under different unsubstantial excuses and slogans is incomprehensible or acceptable after signing the peace and national partnership agreement," Hadi said Sunday.

Hadi spoke at a joint meeting

of the National Defense Council attended by presidential advisers and the country's newly nominated prime minister, Khaled Bahah. Saleh and his party have joined ranks with the Houthis against a common enemy — the Islamist Islah party and its allied tribe of Al-Ahmar, traditional power brokers in Yemen.

The Houthi offensive has pushed Yemen into even deeper turmoil. Apart from the rampant al-Qaida insurgency and the Shiite rebel blitz, the impoverished Arabian Peninsula country also has endured crushing poverty that has bred resentment — and outright rebellion — that took root in a secessionist movement in its once-independent southern region.

Poland to move thousands of troops toward the east

BY MONIKA SCISLOWSKA
The Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland — Poland will move thousands of troops toward its eastern borders in a historic realignment of a military structure built in the Cold War, the country's defense minister told The Associated Press on Monday.

Tomasz Siemoniak said the troops are needed in the east because of the conflict in neighboring Ukraine.

"The geopolitical situation has changed, we have the biggest crisis of security since the Cold War and we must draw conclusions from that," Siemoniak said.

He said that at least three military bases in the east will see

their populations increase from the current 30 percent of capacity to almost 90 percent by 2017, and that more military hardware will be moved to those bases as well.

He said it was not some "nervous or radical move" but that because of this "situation of threat, we would like those units in the east of Poland to be more efficient."

Although Poland joined NATO in 1999, most of Poland's 120,000-member army is based along the country's western border, as a relic of its former status as a Soviet Bloc member.

The units in the east, like the air defense unit in Siedlce, have only 30 percent of jobs filled in line with a plan that calls for 100 percent of troops "only in the case of war."

Nigerian extremists seize dozens more girls

MAIDUGURI, Nigeria — Escaping residents report dozens more girls and young women have been abducted by Islamic extremists in northeast Nigeria, raising doubts about an announced cease-fire and hopes for the release of 219 schoolgirls held captive since April.

The residents said about 30 teenage girls and boys have been kidnapped in recent days from

villages 25 miles from the Borno state capital, Maiduguri.

Another 40 girls and young women were abducted from neighboring Adamawa state on Oct. 18, the day after Nigeria's military announced a cease-fire agreement with Boko Haram insurgents.

Human Rights Watch says in a new report Monday that more than 500 girls and women have been kidnapped by Boko Haram since 2009.

From The Associated Press

WORLD



Ahn Young-joon/AP

An unidentified family member of passengers aboard the sunken ferry *Seoul* cries as she demands maximum punishment for the crewmembers of the ferry at their trial in Gwangju, South Korea, on Monday.

Ferry disaster death penalty urged

The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korean prosecutors on Monday demanded the death penalty for the captain of a ferry that sank in April, killing more than 300 people, and life sentences to three key crewmembers, news reports said.

Prosecutors also requested that a district court sentence 11 other crewmembers to up to 30 years in prison on charges that they were negligent and failed to protect passengers when the ferry was sinking April 16, South Korean media reported. Most of those who died in the disaster were high school students on a school trip.

Capt. Lee Joon-seok and three other crewmembers from the ferry *Seoul* were indicted on homicide charges, alleging

they were negligent and failed to protect passengers when the ferry sank. Eleven other crewmembers were indicted on less serious charges. The 15 crewmembers on trial were among the first group of people to leave when the ship began badly listing.

The Gwangju District Court said it couldn't immediately confirm the news reports.

The sinking, one of South Korea's deadliest disasters in decades, caused nationwide grief and fury, with authorities blaming overloading of cargo, improper storage, untimely rescue efforts and other negligence for the incident. More than six months after the sinking, the bodies of 294 people have been retrieved, while 10 others have not been found.

Lee has apologized for abandoning pas-

sengers, but says he didn't know his action would lead to the mass deaths. In a video taken by the coast guard on the day of the sinking, he was seen escaping the ferry in his underwear to a rescue boat while many passengers were still on the sinking ship.

Many student survivors have said they were repeatedly ordered over a loudspeaker to stay on the sinking ship and that they didn't remember any evacuation order being given before they helped each other flee the vessel.

Lee has said he issued an evacuation order for passengers. But he initially told reporters days after his arrest that he withheld the evacuation order because rescuers had yet to arrive and he feared for the passengers' safety in the cold, swift waters.

Japan's Abe takes a hit in his appeal

By ELAINE KURTENBACH

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's honeymoon with Japan's voters is fading as scandals and a slowing economic recovery take a toll on his popularity and hinder progress on his policy agenda.

The resignations of two ministers in Abe's newly reshuffled Cabinet and reports that political funds of the replacement trade minister were used in a visit to a sex show bar were just the start.

Those reports got people digging into the riches to be found in publicly available political funding disclosures. They show some lawmakers spending hundreds and often thousands of dollars a night on visits to restaurants and mahjong parlors, while ordinary households are struggling to keep up with rising costs for food, heating and other necessities.

The most recent opinion polls show Abe's approval ratings slipping to around 50 percent. They had mostly been in the 60s since 2013.

The controversies are unwelcome distraction at a time of sharpening divisions within the ruling party over whether Abe should press ahead with a sales tax increase next year that is needed to help fund the national finances of the world's third-largest economy.

News of possible election law and political funding violations forced the resignations last week of Abe's justice and trade ministers, both among the five women who had just taken office in the early September Cabinet reshuffle that showcased Abe's commitment to stronger roles for women in leadership.

"It's a serious setback. So much of the Abe Cabinet's shine was due to its aura of invincibility and inevitability," said Michael Cuckey, a Tokyo-based analyst and fel-



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe greets an audience during the parliamentary upper house election campaign in Tokyo in July 2013. Scandals and a slowing economic recovery are taking a toll on Abe's popularity and his policy agenda.

'Now that politics as usual has returned we could see the same sort of decay that we've seen in the past.'

Michael Cuckey
Tokyo-based analyst

low at Temple University Japan.

Troubles over campaign funds and related issues have long contributed to Japan's famous "revolving door" politics. Abe's first term as prime minister, in 2006-07, ended when he was driven from office by scandals and health problems after just a year.

Abe got a rare second chance when his Liberal Democrats regained power from the Democratic Party in December 2012. Since then, the LDP's coalition with the Buddhist-affiliated Komeito, or Clean Government Party, has es-

tablished majorities in both houses of the parliament.

This time around, Abe has cultivated a confident, relaxed style of leadership, repeatedly declaring "Japan is back!" while his chief Cabinet secretary, Yoshihide Suga, endeavors to keep their gaffe-prone allies more or less in line.

"Until this crisis it looked pretty certain he was just going to cruise," Cuckey said. "Now that politics as usual has returned we could see the same sort of decay that we've seen in the past."

Trade minister Yuko Obuchi, a rising star and daughter of a former prime minister, resigned on Oct. 20 after admitting to discrepancies in reporting of her political funding. Justice Minister Midori Matsushima also quit after the opposition filed a criminal complaint alleging that the distribution of "uchiwa," or hand-held fans, to her supporters violated a ban on gift-giving.

Obuchi's successor as trade

minister, Yoichi Miyazawa, then drew fire over an 18,230 yen (\$170) tab listed in his political funds accounting for an evening's entertainment at a sadism- and masochism-themed establishment in his home city of Hiroshima. Miyazawa and his staff say he did not visit the club himself, and the money was paid back.

The next flap was over Miyazawa's ownership, as the minister responsible for the power industry, of shares in Tokyo Electric Power Co., whose Fukushima Dai-Ichi nuclear power plant suffered meltdown during the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami. Miyazawa said Friday he had put the shares, worth about \$2,000, in a trust.

Over the weekend, reports noted that political funds of Taro Aso, a former prime minister who is now finance minister, were used to pay monthly tabs of up to 1.5 million yen (\$14,000) to a mahjong parlor in the Roppongi nightclub district.

Japanese in N. Korea for discussion of abductions

The Associated Press

PYONGYANG, North Korea — A high-ranking Japanese delegation arrived in Pyongyang on Monday to assess the progress of a North Korean investigation into the fates of Japanese citizens who were abducted by North Korean agents in the 1970s and '80s.

The abduction issue has long been a major obstacle in the frosty ties between North Korea and Japan, which have no formal diplomatic relations.

The delegation, led by Junichi Ihara, head of the Asia and Oceania affairs bureau at Japan's Foreign Ministry, is to stay in North Korea for four days. Officials are to discuss the issue on Tuesday and Wednesday.

In what was seen as a significant breakthrough after years of stalemate, North Korea agreed in May to launch a new probe into the abductions. In exchange, Japan agreed to ease some unilateral sanctions on North Korea, though it continues to enforce sanctions backed by the United Nations over North Korea's nuclear and long-range missile programs.

After initial optimism in Japan, progress in North Korea's re-investigation has been slower than Tokyo what was seen as a significant breakthrough after years of stalemate, North Korea agreed in May to launch a new probe into the abductions.

In September, Ihara and his North Korean counterpart, Song Il Ho, held a meeting in the north-eastern Chinese city of Shenyang. Japan was hoping then to receive a preliminary report on the investigation, but none was presented.

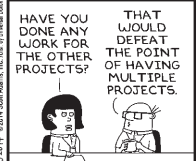
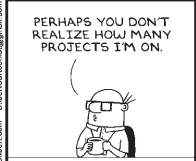
In 2002, North Korea admitted it kidnapped 13 Japanese citizens to train spies in Japanese language and culture. Five were allowed to return to Japan the same year but North Korea said others had died or never entered the North. Japan believes hundreds more may have been abducted and some may still be alive.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said the delegation is being sent to convey that the resolution of the issue is a high priority for Japan.

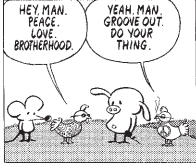
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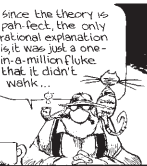
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Pearls Before Swine



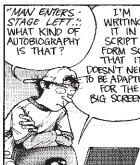
Non Sequitur



Candorville



Get Fuzzy



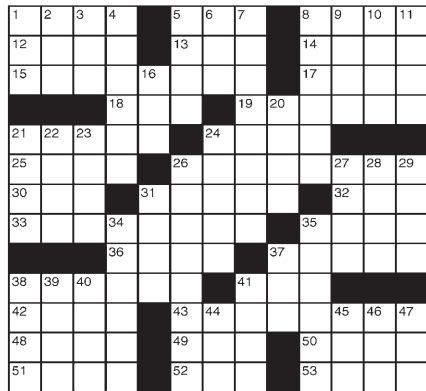
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Bruin
- 5 "Scandal" airer
- 8 Judicial garment
- 12 Soft cheese
- 13 Island neckwear
- 14 Alternative to 12-Across
- 15 Seek office
- 17 Bulblike plant part
- 18 Superlative suffix
- 19 At hand
- 21 Comic Silverman
- 24 Moist
- 25 Whodunit story line
- 26 Undergarment
- 30 Comic Philips
- 31 Passion
- 32 Vast expanse
- 33 Yaounde's land
- 35 "Sad to say ..."
- 36 Disarray
- 37 Ecstasy's opposite
- 38 If not
- 41 Hearty brew
- 42 Last place
- 43 Asian nation
- 48 "West Side Story" faction
- 49 Guitar's cousin
- 50 Fat

DOWN

- 51 Duel tool
- 52 Levy
- 53 Colored
- 1 English channel?
- 2 Baseball stat
- 3 Intention
- 4 Say again
- 5 Settled down
- 6 Plead
- 7 French toast spice
- 8 Summaries
- 9 Smell
- 10 Point of a hook
- 11 TV trophy
- 16 Bonfire residue
- 20 Eastern bigwig
- 21 Detail, for short
- 22 — mater
- 23 Leeway
- 24 Pedestal parts
- 26 Go against the grain
- 27 Norway's capital
- 28 Tilt
- 29 Simple
- 31 War god
- 34 Come out
- 35 Ancient
- 37 Priestly vestment
- 38 Incite
- 39 Tide type
- 40 Highway division
- 41 Visa rival
- 44 Alias abbr.
- 45 Rotation duration
- 46 Anger
- 47 Toss in

Answer to Previous Puzzle



10-28

CRYPTOQUIP

FDSB XRVLC KRV XSCC
QAYORE VEYBO YM BDZK
DSPZ PZAK OJSAB, QAVLZEB

AZOYLZEB0? FSALO RM FYOLRJ.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THESE DESTRUCTIVE
BEETLES LOVE TO OCCUPY DEEP DISHES. I
SUPPOSE THEY'RE BOWL WEEVILS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals Y

NATION

Artist Jorge Rodriguez-Gerada created a portrait, based on 30 photographs of different men, on the National Mall in Washington.

MATT McCLAIN/The Washington Post



OUT OF MANY, ONE

A big-thinking portrait maker uses DC's National Mall as his canvas

BY PHILIP KENNICOTT
The Washington Post

The enormous face emerging on the National Mall in Washington is laid out on six acres of open space next to the Reflecting Pool and just west of the National World War II Memorial.

From ground level, Jorge Rodriguez-Gerada's "Out of Many, One" looks like an eccentric landscaping project; but from the windows of the Washington Monument, more than 500 feet above the Mall, the work reveals an attractive young man in three-quarter profile, seeming to stare through a large gap formed by trees. Even from that height, he gives the uncanny impression of looking straight at you.

The face — created with dark potting soil on a background of lighter-colored sand — is a composite of dozens of photographs the Cuban American artist took in Washington, hence the double meaning of the title, "Out of Many, One." The beauty of the face seems to have a lot to do with its composite derivation, capturing a suggestive mix of ethnic and racial hybridity. But the phrase, in Latin, is also familiar from our

national currency, and the construction of the image, in two sharply contrasting tones, looks a lot like the engravings used on our bank notes.

It also introduces an intriguing sense of scarcity into public space. The number of people who will see the portrait will be strictly controlled by the usual complexity of ascending the Washington Monument. Art is often the domain of the privileged, but here, the "lucky few" — those who make it "to the top" — will not be the wealthy but those who manage to score the free admission tickets for access to the monument.

Rodriguez-Gerada has done similar projects in other cities, beginning with an enormous face of Barack Obama in Barcelona in 2008.

The Washington iteration of the series was spearheaded by the National Portrait Gallery as part of a dual effort to break out of the confinement of traditional museum space and explore the boundaries of portraiture. The image on the Mall will slowly fade as weather erodes the design.

Like large-scale primitive sculptures, or geoglyphs, the image plays with our sense of perspective and scale, but it also subtly changes our perception of the Washington

New face on the National Mall

A grand landscape portrait by Cuban American urban artist Jorge Rodriguez-Gerada has been installed on the Mall and will remain through the month. The project uses sand and potting soil to create a giant portrait viewable from the reopened Washington Monument.

"Out of Many, One"

The portrait occupies an area of the Mall between the Reflecting Pool and Independence Avenue. It does not feature one recognizable individual but is a composite of many faces.



From above Rodriguez-Gerada portraits, like the one shown below, created in 2013 on an 11-acre site in Northern Ireland, can be appreciated only with a bird's eye view.

On the ground, the portrait looks like rows of soil and sand. After designing a piece in his studio, the artist uses satellite guidance to place the details of the image.



SOURCES: Pictometry, jorgerodriguezgerada.com, National Portrait Gallery

THE WASHINGTON POST

Monument, turning a familiar landmark into a new destination. And like a mandala, the portrait is designed to be ephemeral. One thinks of an old saying about our economy: "Too big to fail." But this is big, and designed inherently to fail, or at least disappear. There is whimsy in the portrait's mix of monumentality and transience.

The real miracle of it, however, is that

it happened at all. In all of Washington's bureaucratically encumbered landscape, no site is more complicated and contested than the Mall. But David Ward, senior historian at the National Portrait Gallery, said the project came together in a few months. Much of the labor was volunteer, and Clark Construction, among others, donated materials and services.

SHIFTING GEARS



2015 Hyundai Genesis
Hyundai

More than a bargain, Genesis now a contender

By **BARRY SPYKER**
Miami Herald

What Hyundai did for the redesigned 2015 Genesis sedan was give it a bolder front end, firmer and sportier ride and an all-wheel-drive option. Plus, a cleaner, sophisticated look inside with top-notch materials and craftsmanship.

So, for the first time since the Genesis' birth in 2009, the headline here is not what a great bargain it is compared with its upscale competition. It's not about the warranty, or the price — still thousands less than its foes. It's about what a truly quality vehicle it is and how it stands up to those tough guys from Lexus, Mercedes, Cadillac and BMW.

Sporting a long hood and prominent grille, the Genesis at first look is an elegant design with clean, smooth lines. The trunk slopes back not unlike the Audi A7 — one of my favorite designs — and sports a winged Genesis badge on the trunk that could be confused with Bentley's.

Its overall length is unchanged from last year, but the wheelbase is nearly 3 inches longer. That means more space, but it doesn't mean it's any more trouble to maneuver — its turning radius is still a compact 38 feet. Parking this midsize in tight mall spaces is no more trouble than the compacts.

Genesis' ride is comfortable and well balanced. It is a quiet ride, too, one that won't harass you with wind or road or engine noise.

It is not a sporty drive — even when you dial up the optional

2015 Hyundai Genesis



Base price: \$38,950 (3.8-liter).
As tested: \$52,450 — all-wheel-drive at \$2,500, and fully loaded with Signature, Tech and Ultimate packages, \$11,000 combined.

sport setting, which adjusts suspension, engine and transmission behavior. It makes a little difference. But know that the Genesis is a comfortable, luxury ride and not the most dynamic performer in town.

That doesn't mean you won't enjoy the ride. Both a V-6 and V-8 are available, and both use direct injection. Acceleration is improved on both over last year. The rear-wheel-drive configuration is standard and an all-wheel-drive is available — but only with the V-6. The system, known as HTRAC, can transfer all the torque to the front or rear wheels, depending on the needs.

The standard V-6 is a 3.8-liter engine that puts out 311 horses and 293 pound-feet of torque, and has all the power and pep you'll ever need. And you'll go further on a tank of gas: EPA figures say 18 city, 29 on the highway.

Of course, the V-8, a 5.0-liter generating a beefy 420 hp and 383 pound-feet of torque, offers more punch, especially from the

get-go. And, of course, fuel economy drops some: 15 mpg around town, 23 highway.

Steering is nicely weighted at various speeds and, despite its lack of stiffness, handling on twisty roads is not problematic.

Genesis' look and feel of refinement extends inside, too. Clean fit and finish are as good as any of the leaders in this segment, and real wood and metal accents make for a distinguished appearance. There are also finer soft-touch materials on the dash and doors this year.

Seats are supportive and there is no way you can't get comfortable with the optional 16-way power driver's seats. Head and legroom are abundant in the front and, with a 3-inch longer wheelbase, legroom is improved this year in the rear, too. Headroom, not so much. Better for the sub six-footers back there.

If you think it's roomy, you're right: 123 cubic feet of interior volume. Yeah, that beats Mercedes, Lexus and Cadillac's entries in this segment.

An 8-inch navigation screen is standard but a high-definition 9.2-inch with rear-view camera is available. Both are easily operated and understood with a user-friendly touchscreen.

Trunk space is expansive, even though it's slightly less than last year. But the real turn-on with the trunk is its hands-free Smart Trunk opener: Just walk up, wait for four beeps and presto! It opens. No double-push on the key fob or even waving your foot underneath.

Other tech features include a

driver's head-up display, power-rear sunshade and 17-speaker Lexicon surround-sound audio system. Nav and Bluetooth are standard, as are the infotainment system and paddle shifters for those who want to be more involved with the drive.

Standard safety features include nine air bags including full-length side-curtain bags and driver's knee bag. Hyundai's Blue Link system offers automatic crash notification, SOS button and on-demand roadside assistance.

Optional on the 3.8-liter version are blind-spot detection and rear cross-traffic alert, lane-departure warning and lane-keeping assist (all standard on the 5.0 models).

Genesis' 3.8 is more than generous with standard features — well, that's an understatement. It feels loaded with auto headlights, keyless entry, eight-way power seats with power lumbar support, nav system with rear-view

camera, leather upholstery and seven-speaker audio with CD, and USB/iPod interface.

A Signature package adds panoramic sunroof and a 14-speaker sound system, among other treats. And a Tech package offers high-tech safety like adaptive cruise control, lane-departure and rear-parking sensors.

Or splurge for the Ultimate package and get both of the prior packages plus power trunk lid and upgraded nav system with broader-use controller.

There is a ton or two to like about the 2015 Genesis. And, if you like a bargain, know that this Hyundai (that word isn't spelled out anywhere on the car) is still thousands less than its prime competition — the Lexus GS, Audi A6 and Caddy CTS.

But the real lesson here today is that the Genesis, despite any savings and warranty, has graduated to a level that it can be compared with those vehicles on its own merit.

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US MILITARY AND DIPLOMATIC SALES IN GERMANY & ITALY

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

County finds crushed cemetery vases too late

KS HUTCHINSON—The Reno County Sheriff's Office was too late when it found more than 25 vases that were stolen from cemeteries.

Detective David Post said 26 brass vases were reported stolen from graves at the Turon Cemetery this month. The Hutchinson News reported that a check with area scrap yards found more than 26 vases, and they all were crushed.

Reno County investigators are advising other cemeteries in the region to check for similar thefts.

Cemetery brass vases cost \$400 to \$500. The market price for scrap brass is about \$2 per pound, and the typical vase weighs about 7 pounds.

No trick: Halloween bumped for football

WV CHARLESTON—When Halloween falls on a Friday in communities where high school football is king, it's time to reschedule the holiday.

Communities from West Virginia to Texas are saying they're OK with celebrating Halloween on, well, not Halloween. Football is king in many rural areas, especially in the South, and that's a big reason. But everything from homecoming events to Bible studies can push trick-or-treat night to dates other than Oct. 31.

In West Virginia, more than 50 high school football games are scheduled for Oct. 31. Rather than move the games, many communities moved Halloween. In Berkeley County in the far eastern part of the state, trick-or-treating will occur Nov. 1 because three local teams — Hedgesville, Martinsburg and Spring Mills — have home games the previous night.

Stolen military medals returned to family

HI HONOLULU—Military medals stolen from the family of a Hawaii Army National Guard soldier killed in Afghanistan have been returned.

The Honolulu Star-Advertiser reported Friday that Sgt. Drew Scobie's medals were returned with the help of an intermediary who wants to remain anonymous.

The medals belonged to Scobie's mother and were taken during a burglary of her Kailua home. Certificates that accompanied the medals were returned, although some sustained water damage.

A computer, camera and jewelry taken during the burglary were also missing.

Scobie's wife, McKenna Panui-Scobie, said a friend of a friend offered a \$1,000 reward, but paid \$500 since only some items were brought back.

Roach interrupts pest control chief at hearing

IL CHICAGO—A cockroach embarrassed a Chicago official in charge of pest control when it took a stroll near him in full view of some aldermen, and



PHOTOS BY JERILIE BENNETT, COLORADO SPRINGS GAZETTE/AF

Honoring a legend

Left: Josh Glissan entertains the crowd with his fire-breathing skills at the Emma Crawford Coffin Races in Manitou Springs, Colo., on Saturday. The races started in 1995, but the story of Crawford goes back to 1891, when she was buried at the top of Red Mountain above Manitou Springs. Legend has it that in 1912 her coffin washed down the side of the mountain and into the town.

Above: Each year, teams of four runners and an "Emma" compete in races. This year had a record 50 teams in the race.

its stunt just might have cost it and its buddies their lives.

After Thursday's hearing in the City Council chambers, Fleet and Facilities Management Commissioner David Reynolds had his office call a private contractor to come down to City Hall and do some exterminating.

The cockroach couldn't have picked a worse time to show its antennae on the wall of the City Council chambers: just as Reynolds was testifying during a budget hearing. Alderman Brendan Reilly wondered aloud how much money in Reynolds' department budget was devoted to pest control.

"I was mortified," Reynolds told reporters after the laughter died down.

Pilfered pumpkins please pigs' palates

NH SOMERSWORTH—A pilfered pumpkin caper in New Hampshire was just a misunderstanding that put some pounds on a passel of pigs.

Foster's Daily Democrat reported that hundreds of pump-

kins were thought stolen last week after a festival in Somersworth, in southeast New Hampshire on the Maine border. The pumpkins had been set aside behind a school to be sold at a craft fair.

But a farmer, who police didn't identify, saw the bins of pumpkins and asked a school employee if he could take them for his pigs.

Police Capt. Russ Timmons said the employee didn't know the pumpkins were being saved and gave the farmer the go-ahead.

Timmons said no charges will be filed even though "the only ones that are happy in this whole thing are the hogs."

Man wrongly ID'd as heroin user files claim

KY COVINGTON—A northern Kentucky man says a case of mistaken identity cost him thousands in pay and the respect of family and friends.

Dana J. Davis said he found out his photo was distributed in an online newsletter from the county prosecutor's office. It said he had been sentenced to a year in prison for heroin possession.

The Kentucky Enquirer reported that Davis, 50, found out about it when his mother called him.

Davis, a handyman, had been doing maintenance work at a Covington property for a few years, but after the Web posting, the owner wouldn't return his calls.

The Kenton Commonwealth's attorney's office apologized for the mix-up. Davis is seeking compensation for 11 weeks of lost wages with the Kentucky Board of Claims — a total of \$15,900.

Collection seeks to replace stolen toys

NV RENO—Reno-area Toys for Tots organizers are collecting donations to replace hundreds of toys stolen from a trailer belonging to the charity.

Toys for Tots coordinator Ken Santor said the padlocked trailer was stolen from the office of the local Marine Corps League Detachment, which runs the toy charity.

Santor said more than 300 donated toys had been in the trailer, which was found empty and dam-

aged along a road on Friday.

He said historic military uniforms and other items had also been stolen in the trailer and were stolen.

The Reno Gazette-Journal reported that the group set up a toy donation booth in northwest Reno on Saturday to replenish the stolen toy donations.

13 active drug cases affected by police theft

NM FARMINGTON—San Juan County prosecutors said more than a dozen drug cases have been affected by thefts allegedly committed by a Farmington police evidence technician, and they expect the number to rise.

The Daily Times reported that the San Juan County District Attorney's Office has identified 13 active cases affected by Ashley Goodvoyce's theft of pills and cash from a police storage facility.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Dustin O'Brien said eight other cases are also being reviewed.

Farmington police Chief Steve Hebbe said detectives have spent the last several days looking at evidence packages for signs of tampering.

Authorities charged Goodvoyce on Oct. 17 with 39 felonies.

They said the theft was discovered after a detective found that evidence was missing.

Goodvoyce is scheduled to appear in court Wednesday.

From wire reports

THE CENSUS

\$1M

The amount a couple donated to J.C. Birdleough High School in Phoenix, N.Y. The Post-Standard of Syracuse reported that the money was received from the estate of Robert and Roberta Hurd to fund college scholarships. The Hurds were sweethearts at the school in the 1930s and married a few years after graduation. Robert Hurd, who died in 1992, was a tool-and-die worker. Roberta Hurd

was an accountant who died in March. Few knew the couple had saved enough money to leave such a generous gift to their school.



FACES



'I am ... in charge of me'

McCarthy revels in freedom of talk radio show

By ALICIA RANCILIO
The Associated Press

For those who wonder if celebrity marriages are the real deal, look no further than "TV-radio personality Jenny McCarthy and actor-singer Donnie Wahlberg.

McCarthy says the two, who wed in August, "go to each other's jobs to spend time with each other."

Wahlberg, whose cop drama "Blue Bloods" shoots in New York, recently sat in as McCarthy spoke to press for her new SiriusXM radio show, "Dirty, Sexy, Funny."

The label is a brand McCarthy created to give female comedians "the opportunity to shine." There's been a tour, a TV special and now this radio show.

It began as a weekly summer run and is now on live daily, airing 10 a.m. to noon EDT.

McCarthy, who has made a living off her personality appearing on her own short-lived VH1 show and as a panelist on "The View," says radio seems to be the right career move for right now.

"I always thought I needed to be in front of the camera, but I had no idea of the freedom that I'm allowed with talk radio," she said.

McCarthy says she's spent years trying to find the gig best suited to her personality.

"[Networks would] pay me money to sit and wait for them to write a show, and no one could quite figure out how to write a character for me. Because I realized I really liked myself as the best character. That's why I moved into talk. To be your authentic self today too is so welcomed, I think, by audiences."

On "Dirty, Sexy, Funny," the 41-year-old will conduct interviews and discuss various topics. She also has creative control.

"I am the one who is in charge of me," she says.

Actress Jenny McCarthy is now hosting a new daily live morning radio show on SiriusXM called "Dirty, Sexy, Funny." McCarthy says the freedom to be herself on the show makes radio the right career move for right now.

CHARLES SYKES, INVISION/AP

'Ouija' scares up \$20M in opening weekend

The Associated Press

The spirits moved "Ouija" to No. 1 at the box office, with the board-game adaptation leading the weekend with a \$20 million debut, according to studio estimates Sunday.

The horror movie release, timed to Halloween, attracted more moviegoers at the North America box office than the violent Keanu Reeves thriller "John Wick." The R-rated hit-man revenge tale opened with \$14.2 million in second place.

Last week's top film, the Brad Pitt World War II action film "Fury," slid to third with \$13 million. In two weeks, "Fury" has made \$46.1 million.

Board-game adaptations such as "Ouija" have had a checkered history at the box office, with the big-budget "Battleship" — the last Hasbro game turned into a movie — famously flopping in 2012. But "Ouija" made by Blumhouse Productions and released by Universal Pictures, was made for just \$5 million, and scared up moviegoers with a micro-budget summoning of brand-name occult.

Universal also could claim the top spot in the world's other top market, China, where the Scarlett Johansson sci-fi film "Lucy" opened with \$19 million. Since opening in July, "Lucy" has made \$434 million worldwide, proving the global appeal of Johansson.

David Fincher's marital noir "Gone Girl," starring Ben Affleck, made \$11.1 million in its fourth week, bringing its cumulative total to \$124 million.

In its second week of release, the animated fantasy "The Book of Life" earned \$9.8 million for fifth place.

Cream vocalist and bassist Jack Bruce dies at 71

Jack Bruce was part Mississippi Delta and part Carnaby Street. In his glorious heyday as bassist and lead vocalist of 1960s power trio Cream, he helped create a sound that combined American blues and psychedelia to thrill audiences throughout the world.

Bruce, who died Oct. 24 of liver dis-

ease at age 71, enjoyed a long, respected solo career after the band's acrimonious breakup, but will be best remembered for his stint with Cream and for classics like "Sunshine of Your Love" and "I Feel Free."

Much of the attention was focused on guitar wizard Eric Clapton, but Bruce wrote many of the band's signature tunes and served as lead vocalist. He also provided the bass guitar that, with Ginger Baker's explosive drums, underpinned Cream's rhythmic, driving sound.

Rowling writes backstory of Potter character Umbridge

Harry Potter fans can look forward to a Halloween treat from J.K. Rowling. In an announcement posted Oct. 24 on her website, www.pottermore.com, the author revealed that she has prepared a 1,700-word story about the witch and former Hogwarts professor Dolores Umbridge. The story will appear on Oct. 31 on her site. It will include Rowling's "revealing first-person thoughts" about Umbridge, according to the announcement.

Umbridge first appeared in "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix," the fifth of seven books in Rowling's multi-million-selling series. Imelda Staunton played her in the film adaptations of the Potter books.

Milsap, Wiseman, Cochran join Country Music Hall

Ronnie Milsap, the blind country-soul singer and pianist, joined bluegrass vocalist Mac Wiseman and the late song-writer Hank Cochran as the newest members of the Country Music Hall of Fame on Sunday.

During the ceremony in Nashville, 71-year-old Milsap, 89-year-old Wiseman and Suzi Cochran, Hank's widow, were honored by country artists Vince Gill, Martina McBride and Hunter Hayes with tribute performances at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum.

Steeped in Appalachian music since childhood, Milsap first started playing

with Elvis Presley before becoming a country singer with 40 No. 1 country hits and six Grammy Awards. One of country's most successful songwriters, Cochran's standards include "I Fall To Pieces" and "Make The World Go Away," while Wiseman is considered an elder statesman of bluegrass.

John Denver gets star on Hollywood Walk of Fame

"Sunshine on My Shoulders" singer John Denver received a posthumous star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, the walk's 2,531st star, on Oct. 24, 17 years after his death. Denver's son, Zak Deutchendorf, and daughter, Jesse Belle Denver, attended the unveiling.

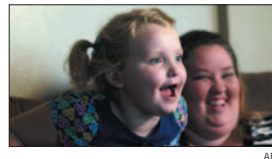
Denver rose to fame in the 1970s with sunny, optimistic songs that included "Rocky Mountain High," "Thank God I'm a Country Boy" and "Annie's Song." He died in a 1997 plane crash at age 53.

Other news

■ The actress who played Gabe Kaplan's wife, Julie, on the 1970s sitcom "Welcome Back, Kotter," has died at age 66. Marcia Strassman passed away Oct. 24 after a long battle against breast cancer, her sister, Julie Strassman, said Sunday. Strassman had numerous roles on television and in film during her five-decade-long career. She had a recurring role as nurse Margie Cutler on the first season of "M*A*S*H" before her breakout role in "Welcome Back, Kotter."

■ Missy Elliott, Lil Kim and Da Brat will reunite at the Soul Train Awards. BET and Centric announced Monday that the female rappers will take the stage Nov. 7 when the show tapes at the Orleans Arena in Las Vegas. They all co-starred on the '90s hit "Not Tonight," alongside Angie Martinez and the late Left Eye E.T.L.C.

■ Beyonce announced Monday that she is merging with British retailer Topshop to launch the company Parkwood Topshop Athletic Ltd. The clothing line will be available next fall.



Alana "Honey Boo Boo" Thompson and her mother, June Shannon, are shown in 2012 in McIntyre, Ga. The TLC network canceled "Here Comes Honey Boo Boo" last week.

Eldest 'Honey Boo Boo' daughter says she was victim of molestation

Newsday

The eldest daughter of "Here Comes Honey Boo Boo" matriarch June Shannon has revealed she was the child molested by Mark McDaniel, the convicted sex offender whose reported new relationship with Shannon caused TLC to cancel the hit reality show.

The network said Oct. 24 it has "ended all activities around the series, effective immediately. Supporting the health and welfare of these remarkable children is our only priority. TLC is faithfully committed to the children's ongoing comfort and well-being," it added, without specifying details. The show starred Shannon and her four daughters, including child-pageant contender Alana "Honey Boo Boo" Thompson.

Eldest child Anna Marie "Chickadee" Cardwell, 20, told people magazine Oct. 25 that McDaniel, 53, "would try and touch me and all that stuff" when she was 8 and McDaniel and Shannon were dating TMZ.com, which first reported the renewed relationship, said he was released in March after serving 10 years in prison for aggravated child molestation.

After the show's cancellation, Shannon posted a Facebook video saying, "Just got a phone call this morning from TLC and as of right now there will be no more production of the show. The statement of me dating a sex offender is totally untrue." She expressed appreciation "to all our awesome fans."

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Toyota at top in global vehicle sales

BY YURI KAGEYAMA

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Toyota kept its lead over rivals Volkswagen and General Motors as the world's top-selling automaker in the first nine months of the year, reporting on Monday record sales of 7.615 million vehicles, up nearly 3 percent from the previous year.

Volkswagen said earlier this month it sold 7.40 million vehicles for the January-to-September period, barely edging out General Motors Co. in the closely watched auto sales race. GM reported sales of 7.372 million cars and trucks worldwide earlier this month.

Japanese automaker Toyota was in first place in the first half with sales of almost 5.1 million. It finished first last year with a record 9.98 million sales, and is projecting annual sales of 10.2 million vehicles this year. That would be an auto industry record.

Toyota, which makes the Camry sedan, the Prius hybrid



ITSUO INOUE/AF

A Toyota model is displayed at the event in May 2013.

and Lexus luxury models, is doing well despite difficulties in its home Japanese market, where a rise in the sales tax has dampened spending overall, especially auto purchases.

Toyota has publicly played

down its spot at the top, saying its focus is on delivering good cars, one at a time.

But the competition is intense. The three automakers have been close on each other's heels, competing not only in developed mar-

kets such as the U.S. and Europe, but also in the emerging markets of China and the rest of Asia.

Volkswagen, which nudged GM out of second in the first half of the year, stayed ahead of the Detroit automaker even though GM had its best third-quarter global sales since 1980, led by strong sales in China and growth in North America.

GM does not give annual sales projections, but Volkswagen has said it might deliver 10 million vehicles this year.

General Motors was the No. 1 selling automaker for more than seven decades before losing the title to Toyota in 2008. GM retook the sales crown in 2011, when Toyota's production was hurt by the quake and tsunami in northeastern Japan.

Toyota made a comeback in 2012, and kept that lead in 2013. GM is going strong despite issuing massive recalls this year totaling more than 30 million vehicles.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Oct. 28).....	\$1.3024
Dollar buys (Oct. 28).....	€0.7678
British pound (Oct. 28).....	\$1.65
Japanese yen (Oct. 28).....	105.00
South Korean won (Oct. 28).....	1,026.00

Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3711
British pound	\$1.6118/0.6204
Canada (Dollar)	1.1249
China (Yuan)	6.1165
Denmark (Krone)	5.8699
Egypt (Pound)	7.1525/0.7882
Euro	\$1.2687/0.7882
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7574
India (Rupee)	243.53
Israel (Shekel)	3.7835
Japan (Yen)	107.80
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2894
Norway (Krone)	6.6233
Philippines (Peso)	44.80
Poland (Zloty)	3.33
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7519
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2757
South Korea (Won)	1,052.50
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9509
Thailand (Baht)	32.42
Turkey (Lira)	2.2588

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.75
Federal funds market rate	0.09
3-month bill	0.02
30-year bond	3.04

WEATHER OUTLOOK

TUESDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

**TUESDAY IN EUROPE****WEDNESDAY IN THE PACIFIC**

The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 3d Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska.

Tuesday's US temperatures

Atlanta, Ga.	Hi	Lo	Wthr	Chattanooga, Ga.	75	57	Clody	Fort Wayne	64	58	Rain	Louisville	73	65	Rain	Pocatello	54	23	PClody	Sloux City	54	39	PClody
Alexandria, Tex.	75	56	PClody	Cheyenne	52	27	Clody	Fresno	76	53	Clody	Rock	67	45	Clody	Portland, Maine	58	38	Clody	Sloux Falls	50	37	Clody
Albany, N.Y.	72	54	PClody	Chicago	62	40	PClody	Grand Rapids	60	57	PClody	Rockford	68	48	PClody	Portland, Ore.	58	38	PClody	South Bend	62	57	Clody
Albany, N.Y.	69	43	Clody	Cincinnati	70	64	Rain	Grand Junction	57	31	Clody	Madison	65	47	PClody	Providence	65	44	PClody	Spokane	48	38	Rain
Albuquerque	64	45	PClody	Cleveland	72	61	Rain	Grand Rapids	60	57	Clody	Medford	65	46	Rain	Pueblo	59	25	PClody	Springfield, Mo.	64	56	PClody
Albuquerque, N.M.	64	45	PClody	Columbus, Ga.	86	54	PClody	Green Bay	55	48	PClody	Meriden	68	50	PClody	Portland, Me.	58	38	PClody	Springfield, Mo.	74	52	PClody
Amarillo	63	49	PClody	Columbia, S.C.	86	54	PClody	Green Bay	55	48	PClody	Miami Beach	84	73	PClody	Reno City	52	29	Clody	Tallahassee	85	54	PClody
Anchorage	38	26	Clody	Columbus, Ga.	86	54	PClody	Greensboro, N.C.	80	49	Clody	Midland-Odesa	72	52	PClody	Rego City	68	33	PClody	Tallahassee	85	54	PClody
Anchorage	38	26	Clody	Columbia, S.C.	86	54	PClody	Harrisburg	69	58	PClody	Midland-Odesa	72	52	PClody	Richmond	68	33	PClody	Tallahassee	85	54	PClody
Atlantic City	79	57	Clody	Concord, N.H.	61	33	Clody	Hartford	66	42	PClody	Miss-St Paul	48	42	Clody	Roanoke	80	50	Clody	Toledo	67	61	Rain
Atlantic City	83	65	Clody	Corpus Christi	89	69	PClody	Helena	53	32	PClody	Missoula	42	20	PClody	Rochester	58	51	Clody	Topeka	64	45	Clody
Atlantic City	87	65	Clody	Dallas-Ft. Worth	88	69	PClody	Honolulu	69	72	PClody	Mobile	83	63	PClody	Rochester	58	51	Clody	Topeka	64	45	Clody
Baltimore	75	50	Clody	Dayton	68	63	Rain	Houston	85	67	Clody	Montgomery	82	67	PClody	Sacramento	75	48	PClody	Tulsa	70	53	PClody
Baltimore	75	50	Clody	Dayton	68	63	Rain	Houston	85	67	Clody	Montgomery	82	67	PClody	Sacramento	75	48	PClody	Tulsa	70	53	PClody
Billings	54	27	PClody	Denver	58	31	PClody	Indianapolis	66	61	Rain	New Orleans	84	67	Clody	St. Petersburg	84	70	Clody	Tupelo	77	61	Clody
Birmingham	79	59	PClody	Des Moines	56	44	Clody	Jackson, Miss.	81	59	Clody	New York City	70	52	PClody	St. Thomas	90	79	PClody	Washington	80	58	Clody
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OPINION

Ban free of Ivies' hold on high court

By DAN K. THOMASSON
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Reading about a widely reported visit to Yale University by three of its alumni who are Supreme Court justices, I couldn't help but notice that only three law schools are represented at the top of what may be the most important branch of our government, the judiciary.

I must confess early in this minor rant that I am an unrelenting advocate of the Midwest. My roots are so deep in that soil that even 50 years in this multicultural, half eastern, half southern environment hasn't managed to loosen the 200-year deposit of soil around them. Some might say worse luck for me and accuse me of having an inferiority complex most Midwesterners wear without realizing it.

Only when one understands that five members of the highest court in the land are law graduates of Harvard, three from Yale and one from Columbia does it seem that chip on our shoulders might be justified. While Chief Justice of the United States John Roberts shares my Indiana heritage, that is tempered by the fact that he is a Harvard "two-er" — undergraduate and law school. Columbia sneaks into the picture only because Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg apparently decided four years of Harvard College was enough and she would broaden her view by attending law school at New York City's representative in the Ivy League. That of course is not traveling very far afield.

What is my point in all this? Well, considering that most of these justices were taught by the same professors in schools with long histories of supplying the bulk of top federal jurists, the aura of sameness in philosophy and legal principle seems inevitable. According to those who purport to know, Harvard is rated as conservative and Yale as liberal. Although that obviously doesn't preclude crossovers from either philosophical principle.

The Washington Post noted that in the 1970s Justices Clarence Thomas, who admits to not having a very good time at the New Haven school, and Samuel Alito, walked the Yale Law School halls together along with former President Bill Clinton and presidential wannabe Hillary Rodham (now Clinton). Justice Sonia Sotomayor was only a few years later in 1979. Unsurprisingly, Yale recently bestowed its Award of Merit on the three justices.

One can only come to the conclusion in all of this that few other institutions are



JESSICA HILL/AP

U.S. Supreme Court Justices Samuel Alito, left, Sonia Sotomayor, center, and Clarence Thomas sit for a conversation at Yale University on Saturday in New Haven, Conn. The three justices are Yale Law School graduates.

worthy of training the men and women who can interpret our laws and (many argue) also make them in contravention of the Constitution.

So how does this occur? The explanation can only be a network that is self-perpetuating going back to the days of the country's birth. Since there weren't many schools, they became the center of professional learning. Harvard, the nation's first institution of higher education, naturally became the standard. That was followed a bit later by Yale and Princeton and other brother schools that received an indelible label of excellence tattooed across their Ivy walls regardless of whether they deserved it.

That branding, perpetuated by a host of alumni and bought into by even those who came from elsewhere, remains at the expense of dozens of other qualified law schools across the land — among them Northwestern and the Universities of Michigan and Chicago in the Midwest and Virginia and Duke in the South. Presidents schooled in the Ivy League appoint justices from there far more often than not.

By the way, it is important here to say that the man who is given credit for writing

the Declaration of Independence and for helping guide the nation toward a central constitution, Thomas Jefferson, didn't go to Yale or Harvard but to the second oldest college in America, William & Mary.

Not to denigrate the worthiness of these schools, but I think it is fair to suggest that top candidates now and then from other learning environments might provide different perspectives.

At an event where the U.S. Marine Band in all its glory struck up a rousing version of what obviously was a college song, then-President George H.W. Bush asked me to identify the music. Rather incredulous, I said that it was the traditional fight song of a Midwestern institution I had attended.

"Where?" he asked.
"Indiana University," I replied, somewhat surprised he didn't ask where Indiana was, then I remembered his vice president hailed from there.

"Oh," he said.
I wanted to say "Boola! Boola!" but did not. Does someone want to knock the chip off my shoulder?

Dan K. Thomasson is an op-ed columnist for McClatchy-Tribune and a former vice president of Scripps Howard Newspapers.

Ban on exporting US crude oil no longer viable

Washington Post editorial

Politicians have stoked fears that lifting a 1970s ban on exporting U.S. crude oil would increase gasoline prices at home. Last week the Government Accountability Office said they are wrong.

U.S. oil production is booming. The country is producing nearly 70 percent more crude than it did in 2008. The nation also boasts some of the world's most advanced refineries. So why not keep all that crude here, refine it in U.S. facilities and sell it to Americans at a discount?

Many U.S. refineries are fitted with expensive upgrades to process heavy, sour crude oil, which has given them a leg up in refining crude from the Middle East and South America. Much of the domestic oil flooding into the U.S. market, on the other hand, is light and sweet. The crude-refinery mismatch in the United States means that drillers are desperate to sell their

product to foreign refineries.

Even if the mismatch weren't so pronounced, U.S. motorists wouldn't realize big benefits from keeping crude in the country. Yes, with a glut of supply, domestic crude prices tend to be lower than in international benchmarks. But drivers don't put crude oil in their tanks — they buy gasoline, which more closely tracks international prices. The true beneficiaries are U.S. refiners capable of taking the light, sweet crude. They get to buy crude cheap and sell gasoline at standard rates.

Given this reality, the GAO concluded that removing the ban on U.S. crude oil exports would tend to lower gasoline prices. U.S. drillers would produce more oil if they could sell it at higher international prices. The additional supply would push global crude oil prices down and gasoline prices, including those in the United States, would follow. The difference would probably not be large — the GAO offers a range of 1.5

cents to 13 cents per gallon. Members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries might respond by reducing their own production, propping up world oil prices and limiting the effects on gas prices. But even in that circumstance, the U.S. economy would benefit as international customers bought more U.S. crude and the trade deficit decreased.

Environmentalists oppose exports for a different reason: They don't want to encourage energy companies to drill more. We will be as happy as anyone when the world finally kicks its dependence on fossil fuels. But demanding that global oil markets operate irrationally in the meantime is not a reasonable response for economies that still depend on fuel and must manage a transition to cleaner energy. Instead, policymakers should demand that energy markets operate more rationally — by taxing fossil fuels in proportion to the damage they do to the planet.

NFL



ROB SCHUMACHER, THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC/AP

Arizona Cardinals wide receiver John Brown scores a touchdown against Philadelphia Eagles cornerback Cary Williams during Sunday's game in Glendale, Ariz. The Cardinals defeated the Eagles 24-20.

Brown, Cards stun Eagles



ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

Arizona's Sam Acho (94) and Calais Campbell (93) celebrate their win over the Philadelphia Eagles on Sunday. The Cardinals improved to 6-1 and are off to their best start since going 7-0 forty years ago.

Rookie WR's 75-yard TD catch lifts Arizona over Philadelphia

By BOB BAUM
The Associated Press

GLENDAL, Ariz. — The Arizona Cardinals seemed headed for a tough loss, the Philadelphia Eagles a big road victory.

Then rookie John Brown made that over-the-shoulder reception — “a Willie Mays catch,” coach Bruce Arians said — on a 75-yard touchdown play and the Cardinals stunned the Eagles 24-20 on Sunday.

“He’s so young and so raw and so fast and so explosive,” Arizona quarterback Carson Palmer said. “I mean, for him to pull away from everybody like that, I’m not surprised.”

The victory left the Cardinals (6-1) with a two-game lead in the NFC West as one of three one-loss teams left in the NFL. Denver and Dallas are the other two. Arizona plays at the Cowboys next Sunday.

It’s the Cardinals’ best start since they went 7-0 40 years ago.

“I can’t say enough about the resiliency of our football players,” Arians said. “It’s a family, it’s a band of brothers that just will not quit.”

The Eagles (5-2) showed some resiliency of their own, driving to the Arizona 16 before Nick Foles’ pass to Jordan Matthews on the final play was just out of bounds.

“Normally this year, we’ve been on the other side of this,” said Philadelphia wide receiver Jeremy Maclin, who caught 12 passes for 187 yards and two touchdowns. “This was a big one.”

Think: Week in and week out, no sure things in NFL

FROM BACK PAGE

Well, except for the Oakland Raiders, at 0-7 the only team without a victory. Everyone’s got them pegged — and 0-6 would surprise no one.

Otherwise, though, Indianapolis was coming off a shutout and a five-game winning streak before allowing more than 500 yards passing and six touchdowns to Pittsburgh’s Roethlisberger, who seems to be doing just fine, thank you, with offensive coordinator Haley at the moment. The Steelers won 51-34.

Another 51-spot came from Brady’s Patriots, who improved to 6-2 heading into next Sunday’s matchup against Peyton Manning’s Broncos. Apparently, Brady — who had as many incompletions as TD passes (five) in a victory against the Bears — is still capable of being the guy who played well enough to win Super Bowls.

Reigning Super Bowl champion Seattle, meanwhile, lost two games in a row, traded away Percy Harvin, and has been surrounded by stories of locker-room turmoil. So all Russell Wilson did was lead an 80-yard drive that ended with his 23-yard TD throw to Luke Willson with 47 seconds left for a 13-9 victory at Carolina.

In case you missed it, here are the other top topics after the NFL season’s eighth Sunday:



Wilson

Say Watt?! Perhaps Texans defensive end J.J. Watt spent some time checking Twitter before playing the Titans. After sacking Tennessee quarterback Zach Mettenberger in Houston’s 30-16 victory, Watt pantomimed taking a selfie. After the game, Watt took this swipe: “Their quarterback had posted a few selfies this week, including one before the game, and it’s just kind of a reminder — this is the National Football League, not high school, so welcome to the show.”

Gronk’s Back: Look out, defenders. Rob Gronkowski had nine catches for 146 yards and three touchdowns in New England’s 51-23 victory over Chicago. There was surgery on his torn-up right knee in January. Before that came a series of operations on his forearm. And back surgery, too. The man known simply as “Gronk” seems to finally be healthy now.

Not bad, rookie! While first-year QBs struggle, rookies at other positions are flourishing, particularly receivers. Brandin Cooks produced a 50-yard touchdown catch and a 4-yard scoring run for the Saints; Sammy Watkins had three catches for 157 yards and a TD for the Bills; Kelvin Benjamin somehow pulled down a catch for the Panthers between defensive backs Richard Sherman and Earl Thomas of the Seahawks. Linebacker Anthony Barr’s 27-yard fumble return for a touchdown gave Minnesota a win over Tampa Bay in overtime, linebacker Khalil Mack is one of the few bright spots for Oakland, and Arizona kicker Chandler Catanzaro set an NFL rookie record by beginning his career with 16 consecutive successful field-goal attempts.

‘This is the National Football League, not high school, so welcome to the show.’

J.J. Watt

Houston Texans’ defensive end, on Tennessee Titans QB Zach Mettenberger, in reference to the multiple “selfies” the rookie had posted on social networks this week



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NFL ROUNDUP



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34

PITTSBURGH — Ben Roethlisberger set franchise records with 522 yards passing and six touchdowns.

Roethlisberger's yardage total was the fourth highest in NFL history. He became the first player to go over 500 yards passing twice as the Steelers (5-3) won consecutive games for the first time this season.

Antonio Brown caught 10 passes for 133 yards and two scores. Heath Miller caught seven passes for 112 yards and the clinching TD with 5:14 remaining.

Andrew Luck passed for 400 yards and three touchdowns, but also threw two interceptions. He handed the Steelers a safety when he was called for intentional grounding in the end zone midway through the fourth quarter as the Colts saw their five-game winning streak end spectacularly.



BILL HABER/AP

Saints wide receiver Brandin Cooks, left, pulls in a touchdown catch in front of Packers cornerback Tramon Williams in the second half Sunday in New Orleans. The Saints won 44-23.



43



23

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Kyle Orton threw four touchdown passes as the Bills forced six turnovers, three each by Geno Smith and Michael Vick.

Orton won for the third time in four games since replacing EJ Manuel as the starting quarterback for the Bills (5-3), tossing TD passes to Robert Woods, Lee Smith, Scott Chandler and Sammy Watkins against the listless Jets (1-7).

Stephen Gilmore, Preston Brown, Aaron Williams and DaNorris Seawey had interceptions for the Bills.

The Jets have lost seven straight for the first time since 2005. Geno Smith was intercepted on three consecutive possessions in the first quarter and was pulled in favor of Vick, who was picked off again and lost two fumbles.



27



24

CINCINNATI — Andy Dalton made up for his two second-half turnovers by scoring on a 1-yard sneak with 57 seconds left, rallying Cincinnati past Baltimore to tighten the AFC North race.

The Bengals (4-2-1) wasted an 11-point lead as Dalton's fumble and interception helped the Ravens (5-3) pull ahead 24-20 with 3:59 left.

That's when Dalton pulled it out against the NFL's stingiest defense. He threw a 53-yard pass to Mohamed Sanu on third-and-10 — safety Terrence Brooks got turned around — and took it the final yard on fourth down, completing a 10-play, 80-yard drive.



44



23

NEW ORLEANS — Deflated in Detroit one week. Sublime in the Superdome the next.

And just like that, Drew Brees and the suddenly resurgent New Orleans Saints have first place in the NFC South division within their immediate grasp.

Brees completed 27 of 32 passes for 311 yards and three touchdowns. New Orleans' defense produced big plays in the clutch and the Saints ended Green Bay's four-game winning streak.

"It's been a long time coming," Brees said. "Obviously, we've had our fair share of struggles early on here. We've lost some heartbreakers. All we talked about all week long is just coming together as a team and playing a complete game as a team. ... It was a perfect representation of that."

Rookie receiver Brandin Cooks had a 50-yard touchdown catch and a 4-yard scoring run, and tight end Jimmy Graham caught a touchdown pass. The Saints (3-4) pulled even in victories with Carolina (3-4-1), setting up a Thursday night showdown for first place in the NFC South.

Aaron Rodgers, intercepted only once in Green Bay's first seven games, was picked off twice on tipped passes and sacked three times. He still passed for 418 yards, including a 70-yard touchdown pass to Randall Cobb, but it was not nearly enough to prevent the Packers (5-3) from falling a game behind NFC North leader Detroit.

Rodgers, who also complained of a sore hamstring, called the Packers' performance "uncharacteristic of our team and myself."



51



23

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Tom Brady threw five scoring passes as the streaking Patriots crammed three touchdowns into the last two minutes of the first half.

New England (6-2) scored on all five of its possessions in the half — and one of Chicago's — on its way to its fourth straight win. The Bears (3-5) fell behind 45-7 early in the second half and lost for the fourth time in five games.

In one of the best statistical games of his brilliant career, Brady completed 30 of 35 passes for 354 yards. He threw three scoring passes to Rob Gronkowski and one each to Tim Wright and Brandon LaFell.



34



7

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Jamaal Charles ran for two touchdowns and Knile Davis returned a kick 99 yards for a score as the Chiefs trounced their cross-state rival.

Cairo Santos added a pair of field goals for Kansas City (4-3), including a career-best 53-yarder. Alex Smith was 24 of 28 for 226 yards, while Davis capped a run of 34 unanswered points with a short touchdown run late in the fourth quarter.

Justin Houston had three of the Chiefs' seven sacks.

The banged-up Rams (2-5) lost their sixth straight to Kansas City dating to Sept. 25, 1994, when they were still in Los Angeles.



23



3

CLEVELAND — Brian Hoyer threw a 4-yard touchdown pass to Andrew Hawkins early in the fourth quarter as the Browns avoided a second straight embarrassing loss.

Safety Donte Whitner forced a fumble late in the third quarter with a huge hit on Oakland running back Darren McFadden as the Raiders (0-7) were driving deep into Cleveland territory.

Cleveland lost at Jacksonville last week, giving the Jaguars their first win. According to STATS, no team in NFL history has lost consecutive games to winless teams in Week 7 or later.



13



9

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Russell Wilson threw a 23-yard touchdown pass to Luke Willison with 47 seconds left. It's the third straight year Wilson has brought the Seahawks (4-3) back from a second-half deficit to beat the Panthers on the road.

Carolina's defense, which had allowed at least 37 points in four of its previous five games, held the Seahawks in check before Wilson led a nine-play, 80-yard drive for the only touchdown.

Wilson finished 20-for-32 for 199 yards with one interception and one touchdown.

Cam Newton was 12-for-27 for 121 yards.



19



13

TAMPA, Fla. — Anthony Barr forced a fumble on the first play of overtime and returned it 27 yards to score. The stunning end came just 17 seconds after the Vikings (3-5) extended the game on Blair Walsh's 38-yard field goal on the final play of regulation.

Teddy Bridgewater threw for 241 yards, one TD and no interceptions to help Minnesota stop a three-game skid.

Mike Glennon threw a 7-yard scoring pass to Austin Seferian-Jenkins to give Tampa Bay (1-6) a 13-10 lead with 2:02 left. But the Bucs' porous defense couldn't stop Bridgewater from putting together a nine-play, 61-yard march to get the game into OT.



27



13

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Rookie Blake Bortles had two interceptions returned for touchdowns, costly mistakes that helped the Dolphins win.

Louis Delmas (81 yards) and Brent Grimes (22 yards) scored on the turnovers for the Dolphins (4-3), who won consecutive games for the first time this season.

Ryan Tannehill's 3-yard pass to Richard Matthews made it 24-6 late in the third quarter and gave the Dolphins a comfortable cushion in a game they could have easily trailed by double digits.

The Jaguars (1-7) dominated the first half, but trailed 10-3 at the break because of miscues. Bortles had three turnovers.



30



16

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Arian Foster ran for 151 yards and two touchdowns and also caught a pass for a score in the franchise's 200th game.

The Texans (4-4) also snapped a three-game skid as Foster topped 100 yards rushing in his fourth straight game. J.J. Watt had two sacks and forced a fumble as the Texans beat the team they replaced in Houston for the fourth time in five games.

Texans linebacker Jadeveon Clowney played for the first time since hurting his knee in the season opener. He had one tackle.

Rookie Zach Mettenberger turned over the ball twice in his first start and he also threw for 299 yards and two touchdowns.

AUTO RACING

Earnhardt gets emotional win for Hendrick

Martinsville victory comes on anniversary of team plane crash

By JENNA FRYER
The Associated Press

MARTINSVILLE, Va. — Dale Earnhardt Jr. recognized the emotional impact his win at Martinsville Speedway had on Rick Hendrick when he met his boss in Victory Lane.

The team owner embraced the driver who delivered the win at the track that has caused so much heartbreak and joy. Martinsville was Hendrick's home track as a child growing up in Virginia, the place where Hendrick Motorsports had its first career victory.

But it was 10 years ago this weekend that an HMS plane on its way to the race crashed, killing all 10 on board. Lost on that day were Hendrick's son, brother, twin nieces, the team general manager, head engine builder, a key sponsor representative, two Hendrick pilots and a pilot for Tony Stewart.

His four drivers try desperately to win at Martinsville for Hendrick, for the organization, for those who died that October day.

"I could feel how important it was to him and his embrace when he hugged me," Earnhardt said. "There's a genuine hug and there's a hug. His was the real deal. This is the 10th anniversary. It's more difficult. The 10th anniversary sort of has you reflecting and remembering."

It was fitting that it was Earnhardt who carried the Hendrick banner on this difficult day. He lost his father, Hall of Famer Dale Earnhardt, in a fatal accident on the final lap of the 2001 Daytona 500.

All of NASCAR mourned for an entire season, on every anniversary and Earnhardt Jr. had to grieve with a rabid fan base watching his every move.

"Losing my dad was difficult. I can't even imagine that loss that he went through, his family went through, the whole organization, all those people at one time," Earnhardt said. "I was so proud to be able ... win this race on this challenging weekend for the company. They're very hurt and it's a heavy heart that they carry all weekend, but they want to win the race."

It was Earnhardt's fourth win of the



STEVE HELBER/AP

Dale Earnhardt Jr., left, celebrates winning Sunday's Sprint Cup race with team owner Rick Hendrick in Victory Lane at Martinsville Speedway in Martinsville, Va. It was the 10th anniversary of a team plane crash that killed Hendrick's son, brother and nieces.

season and the first of his career at Martinsville, and came a week after he was eliminated from NASCAR's championship race.

No longer a participant in the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship, he had nothing on the line when he raced hard in the closing laps with teammate Jeff Gordon.

Gordon, who is still in the Chase, settled for second in a 1-2 finish for Hendrick. But it was the win that he wanted: A victory would have earned him an automatic berth into the finale.

"I will say that it makes me feel a little bit better about finishing second that it was second to somebody that's not in the Chase," Gordon said. "Had that been somebody in the Chase, it would have been hard to swallow."

Gordon was the highest finishing Chase driver.

Chase driver Ryan Newman was third, and Stewart finished fourth. Chase drivers Joey Logano and Matt Kenseth were fifth and sixth.

Running fifth, Stewart gambled and stayed on the track after the race was red-flagged with 10 laps left. Earnhardt and Gordon pitted for fresh tires, and that one final stop was just enough for the successful finish.

"If we had to do that 100 times over, we'd do the same thing," Stewart said. "We didn't have anything to lose. It was worth the gamble."

"This is as good as a win to me."

Other Chase driver results included: Denny Hamlin eighth, Carl Edwards 20th, Brad Keselowski 31st and Kevin Harvick 33rd.

Harvick crashed just past the halfway point when he had contact with Kenseth following a restart. It made for a mixed day for Stewart-Haas Racing: Team co-owner Stewart scored his first top-five finish since March, but Harvick's championship chances took a huge hit.

Harvick had to take his car to the garage, where crew members from all of SHR's teams worked furiously to repair the damage and get him back on the track. Even competition director Greg Zipadelli was working on the Chevrolet, which re-

ceived significant repairs before Harvick returned to the race, down 40 laps.

"Yeah, he won't win this championship," Harvick said about Kenseth. "If we don't, he won't."

Added Harvick crew chief Rodney Childers: "He just flat-out wrecked us. It's a bad decision on his part, for sure."

Kenseth called the race "one of the low-lights of my career," and said he understood Harvick's frustration.

"I don't blame him for feeling like that, to be honest with you. It was a mistake," Kenseth said. "He was an innocent bystander, at the wrong place at the wrong time. I totally understand how he feels, I totally understand why he would say that, I totally get it."

"He knows it's a mistake, too, but that doesn't really help him. I don't blame him. He got taken out of the race for being at the wrong place at the wrong time."

Harvick likely needs to win at either Texas Motor Speedway next week or Phoenix International Raceway — where he's a five-time winner — to advance to the finale.

Same for Keselowski, who overcame an early speeding penalty to be in the hunt until a mechanical problem in his Ford caused a multi-car crash that involved Edwards with 64 laps left and forced a red flag.

Keselowski just climbed out of a similar hole a week ago — he had to win at Talladega to advance into this round of the Chase.

"It's been tough but it builds character and makes us stronger," Keselowski said. "With this format, we're by no means out."



SARAH GLENN, POOL/AP

Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s fourth win of the season — and first at Martinsville Speedway — came too late to help him have a shot at the Chase.

NBA TEAM CAPSULES

Southwest Division

Listed in predicted order of divisional finish:

San Antonio Spurs

Last season: 62-20, won NBA title.
Starting five: G Tony Parker (16.7 ppw, 5.7 apg, 2.3 rpg), G Danny Green (9.1 ppw, 3.4 rpg, 41.5 percent), P Kawhi Leonard (12.8 ppw, 6.2 rpg, 1.7 spg, 52.2 percent), G Tiago Splitter (8.2 ppw, 7.4 Tim Duncan (15.1 ppw, 9.7 rpg, 1.9 spg, 3.0 apg), C Tiago Splitter (8.2 ppw, 6.2 rpg, 52.3 percent).

Key additions: Assistant coach Eltona Messina, assistant coach Becky Hammon.

Key losses: None.

Coach: Gregg Popovich, 19th season.

Eyes on: Leonard. He took his game to another level in the NBA Finals, pouring brilliant off-ends of the floor to win the MVP award and set himself up for a big-money extension.

Outlook: Everyone is back, because that's what the Spurs do. About the only thing the Spurs haven't done yet is win back-to-back titles. Why not this year? With Popovich making minutes and a seemingly apologetic return to the Spurs in Duncan, Parker and Manu Ginobili, the Spurs are primed to make a run at a sixth championship.

Dallas Mavericks

Last season: 49-33, lost to San Antonio Spurs 4-3 in first round.

Starting five: G James Nelson (12.1 ppw, 7.0 apg), G Monta Ellis (19.0 ppw, 5.7 apg), F Chandler Parsons (16.6 ppw, 5.5 rpg, 4.0 apg), F Dirk Nowitzki (21.7 ppw, 6.2 rpg), C Tyson Chandler (8.7 ppw, 3.6 rpg, 1.1 rpg).

Key additions: G Nelson (free agent, Magic), F Parsons (free agent, Rockets), C Chandler (trade, Knicks), G Raymond Felton (trade, Knicks), F Al-Farouq Aminu (free agent, Pelicans), F Chiriac Jefferson (free agent, Jazz).

Key losses: F DeJuan Blair (free agent, Cavaliers), F Vince Carter (free agent, Grizzlies), G Chandler (trade, Knicks), C Samuel Dalembert (trade, Knicks), F C-DeJuan Blair (trade, Wizards).

Coach: Rick Carlisle, seventh season.

Eyes on: Parsons. Essentially got a max contract at three years, \$46 million when the Mavericks signed him to an offer sheet that Houston declined to match. He says he wants to be a marquee player now that he's out of the shadow of James Harden and Dwight Howard.

Outlook: Several factors are fueling expectations of a high finish in the tough Western Conference, starting with the return of Chandler, the emotional leader for the franchise's only championship in 2011. Ellis and Parsons give the Mavericks their best chance yet to have a leading scorer not named Nowitzki for the first time since 2000.

Memphis Grizzlies

Last season: 50-32, lost to Oklahoma City Thunder 4-3 in first round.

Starting five: G Michael Conley (17.2 ppw, 6.0 apg, 4.1 rpg), G Courtney Lee (9.6 ppw, 2.4 rpg, 1.5 apg), F Tayshaun Prince (6.0 ppw, 3.1 rpg, 1.6 apg), F Zach Randolph (17.4 ppw, 10.1 rpg, 2.5 apg), C Marc Gasol (14.6 ppw, 7.2 rpg, 3.6 apg).

Key additions: F Vince Carter (trade, Mavericks), G Jordan Adams (draft, UCLA), F C-James Starks (draft night trade, Jazz).

Key losses: G Mike Miller (free agent, Cavaliers), F Ed Davis (free agent, Lakers), F James Johnson (free agent, Raptors).

Coach: Dave Joerges, second season.

Eyes on: Conley. He played on 19 games last summer after hurting his left knee, but he spent the summer losing some weight and getting stronger. He is going into the final year on his contract, making fans worried this might be his last season in Memphis.

Outlook: Controlling owner Robert Pera will not be satisfied with extending the franchise-rental star straight up for the fifth year, believing the bench to be deep enough for a run back to the Western Finals.

Houston Rockets

Last season: 54-28, lost to Portland Trail Blazers 4-2 in first round.

Starting five: G Patrick Beverley (10.2 ppw, 3.5 rpg, 4.5 apg), G James Harden (10.2 ppw, 4.7 rpg, 6.1 apg), F Trevor Ariza (14.4 ppw, 6.2 rpg, 2.5 apg), F Terence Jones (12.1 ppw, 6.9 rpg, 1.1 apg), C Dwight Howard (18.3 ppw, 12.2 rpg, 1.8 apg).

Key additions: F Ariza (trade, Washington), G Jason Terry (trade, Sacramento), F Kostas Papanikolaou (trade, Portland), F Jeff Adrien (free agent, Milwaukee).

Key losses: F Chandler Parsons (free agent, Dallas), F Omri Casspi (free agent, Sacramento).

Coach: Mike D'Antoni, fifth season.

Eyes on: Harden. He was fifth in the league in scoring last season, but received criticism for his defense after the Rockets were eliminated by Portland in the first round of the playoffs. He has vowed that he'll improve as a defender this season.

Outlook: With Howard and Harden the Rockets have a core for success and are almost guaranteed another trip to the playoffs. The key will be if the other starters can step up and if Ariza can improve their lackluster defense.

New Orleans Pelicans

Last season: 34-48, 11th in Western Conference.

Starting five: G Jrue Holiday (14.3 ppw, 4.2 rpg, 7.9 apg), G Eric Gordon (15.4 ppw, 2.6 rpg, 3.3 rpg), F P.J. Tinsley (15.4 ppw, 4.7 rpg, 5.0 apg), F Anthony Davis (20.8 ppw, 10.0 rpg, 2.8 rpg, 1.6 apg), C Omer Asik (15.6 ppw, 7.09 rpg, 0.8 rpg).

Key additions: F Asik (trade, Washington), F John Salmons (free agent, Hawks), G Jimmy Fredette (free agent, Bulls).

Key losses: G Anthony Morrow (free agent, Thunder), F Al-Farouq Aminu (free agent, Mavericks), C Jason Smith (free agent, Knicks).

Coach: Alvin Gentry, fifth season.

Eyes on: Anthony Davis. The 21-year-old improved significantly last season, being named his first All-Star squad in only his second season as a pro.

Outlook: The Pelicans expect the inside presence of the 7-foot Asik to give Davis the freedom to provide help defense farther from the basket, release quicker on the fast break and expand his all-court game.

Northwest Division

Listed in predicted order of divisional finish:

Oklahoma City Thunder

Last season: 59-23, lost to San Antonio 4-2 in Western Conference finals.

Starting five: G Russell Westbrook (21.8 ppw, 6.9 apg, 5.7 rpg), G Reggie Miller (13.1 ppw, 4.1 rpg, 3.5 apg), F Kevin Durant (32.0 ppw, 7.4 rpg, 5.5 apg), F Serge Ibaka (15.1 ppw, 8.8 rpg, 2.7 rpg), C Steven Adams (3.3 ppw, 4.1 rpg, 0.7 rpg).

Key additions: G Anthony Morrow (free agent, Pelicans), F Mitch McGary (draft), G Sebastian Telford (free agent, China).

Key losses: G Thabo Sefolosha (trade, Hawks), F Carter Butler (free agent, Pistons), G Hashem Thabeet (free agent, 76ers), G Derek Fisher (retired).

Coach: Scott Brooks, eighth season.

Eyes on: Westbrook. With Kevin Durant out for the early part of the season with a Jones fracture in his right foot, Westbrook, a three-time All-Star with top-shelf athleticism and the confidence to match, will be relied upon to carry the load.

Outlook: The Thunder are on the verge of breaking through with the addition of Morrow, one of the league's best three-point shooters. If Durant's injury is as minor as the team says, the Thunder have as good a chance as any team of representing the West in the NBA Finals.

Portland Trail Blazers

Last season: 54-28, lost to the San Antonio Spurs 4-1 in the second round.

Starting five: G Damian Lillard (20.7 ppw, 3.5 rpg, 5.6 apg), G Wesley Matthews (16.4 ppw, 3.5 rpg, 2.4 apg), F Nicolas Batum (13.0 ppw, 5.1 rpg, 3.1 apg), F LaMarcus Aldridge (26.2 ppw, 10.6 rpg, 1.8 rpg), G Robin Lopez (11.7 ppw, 8.5 rpg, 0.9 apg).

Key additions: G Steve Blake (free agent, Golden State Warriors), C Chris Kaman (free agent, Lakers).

Key losses: G Mo Williams (free agent, Timberwolves).

Coach: Steve Clifford, third season.

Eyes on: Aldridge. The three-time All-Star posted season highs last season for points and rebounds. The Blazers have made it clear they want to keep Aldridge, who will wait until the offseason to ask for the max contract.

Outlook: With the return of all of their starters and boosted by last year's appearance in the conference semifinals for the first time in 14 years, the Blazers will not doubt compete in the robust West. The team made a smart move this summer with the acquisition of Kaman to complement Lopez.

Denver Nuggets

Last season: 36-46, finished fourth in Northwest Division and missed playoffs.

Starting five: PG Ty Lawson (17.6 ppw, 8.8 apg, 1.6 rpg), G Aron Afflalo (18.2 ppw, 3.6 rpg, 3.4 apg with Magic), F Kenneth Faried (13.7 ppw, 8.6 rpg, 1.1 rpg), F Danilo Gallinari (16.2 ppw, 5.2 rpg, 2.5 apg), C Timofey Mozgov (4.9 ppw, 6.4 rpg, 1.2 apg).

Key additions: F Afflalo (trade, Magic), G Gary Harris (draft), C Jusuf Nurkic (draft).

Key losses: PF Anthony Randolph (trade, Bulls), G Evan Fournier (trade, Magic).

Coach: Brian Shaw, second season.

Eyes on: Gallinari. Hasn't played since blowing out his left knee coming off Dallas on April 4, 2013. He's gone through three surgeries and countless hours of rehab to get back on the court. He averaged 16.2 points a game and hit 135 three-pointers in 2012-13.

Outlook: The Nuggets were hit hard by injuries in Shaw's first season in charge as J.J. Hickson and Nate Robinson suffered knee injuries and JaVale McGee missed a chunk of the season with a left tibia stress fracture. Shaw's hope the acquisition of Afflalo will be the piece that returns the Nuggets to the playoffs after sitting out last season for the first time since 2002-03.

Minnesota Timberwolves

Last season: 40-42, 11th in Western Conference.

Starting five: G Ricky Rubio (9.5 ppw, 8.6 apg, 2.3 rpg, 38.1 percent), F Kevin Martin (19.1 ppw, 3.0 rpg, 38.7 percent), F Andrew Wiggins (7.1 ppw, 5.9 rpg, 1.0 rpg), F Nikola Pekovic (17.5 ppw, 8.7 rpg, 54.1 percent).

Key additions: F Young (trade, 76ers), F Wiggins (trade, Cavaliers), G Mo Williams (free agent, Trail Blazers), F Anthony Bennett (trade, Cavaliers), G Zach LaVine (draft).

Key losses: F Kevin Love (trade, Cavaliers), coach Rick Adelman (retired), Coach: Flip Saunders, first season.

Eyes on: Wiggins. He was the key piece that got the Timberwolves to play way with Love, the disgruntled face of their franchise. Wiggins was the No. 1 pick in the draft and has been heavily hyped since he was a young boy playing in Canada. If Wiggins can realize the potential many believe he has, the rebuilding process Post Love could be considerably shortened.

Outlook: Making his return to the bench for a second tour in Minnesota, Saunders believes the Wolves are a lot closer to being in the hyper competitive Western Conference playoff mix than many think.

Utah Jazz

Last season: 25-57, 15th in Western Conference.

Starting five: G Trey Burke (12.8 ppw, 3 ppw, 5.7 apg), G Alec Burks (14 ppw, 3 ppw, 2.7 apg), F Gordon Hayward (16.2 ppw, 5.1 rpg, 5.1 apg), F Derrick Favors (13.3, 8.7, 1.2 apg), C Enes Kanter (12.3, 7.5 rpg, 0.9 apg).

Key additions: Coach Quin Snyder, G Dante Exum (draft), F Trevor Booker (draft), F Rodney Hood (draft), F Steve Novak (trade, Raptors), G/F Carlisle (trade, Cavaliers).

Key losses: F Marvin Williams (free agent, Hornets), F Richard Jefferson (free agent, Mavericks), C Andris Biedrins (waived).

Coach: Quin Snyder, first season.

Eyes on: Exum. The Jazz matched Charlotte's four-year, \$63 million offer in the offseason after Hayward became the first Jazz player to average 16 points, five rebounds and five assists since Pete Maravich.

Outlook: The Jazz are seriously young, with 15 of the players invited to training camp 25 or younger. The young squad should be easily teachable as Snyder looks to install his own system.

Pacific Division

Listed in predicted order of divisional finish:

Los Angeles Clippers

Last season: 57-25, lost to Oklahoma City 4-2 in second round.

Starting five: G Chris Paul (19.1 ppw, 4.3 rpg, 10.7 apg), G J.J. Redick (15.2 ppw, 2.1 rpg, 2.2 apg), F Blake Griffin (24.1 ppw, 9.5 rpg, 3.9 apg), F Matt Barnes (9.9 ppw, 4.6 rpg, 2.0 apg), C DeAndre Jordan (10.4 ppw, 13.6 rpg, 2.5 apg).

Key additions: G Jordan Farmer (free agent, Lakers), F Spencer Hawes (free agent, Cavaliers), G Jared Cunningham (free agent, Kings), G Chris Douglas-Roberts (free agent, Hornets).

Key losses: G Darren Collison (free agent, Kings), G/F Jared Dudley (trade, Bucks), F Dwyane Grant (free agent, Heat), G Willie Green (waivers, Magic), C Ryan Hollins (free agent, Kings).

Coach: Doc Rivers, second season.

Eyes on: Steve Ballmer. He could rival Mark Cuban of the Mavericks for most excitable owner in the NBA with his over-the-top enthusiasm.

Outlook: Ballmer, the former Microsoft CEO, spent a record \$2 billion to buy the team and has vowed to give Rivers and his players whatever they need to win a championship. If the Clippers don't at least advance to the Western Conference finals, their season will be considered a disappointment.

Golden State Warriors

Last season: 51-31, lost to Los Angeles Clippers 4-3 in first round.

Starting five: G Stephen Curry (24.0 ppw, 4.3 rpg, 8.5 apg), G Klay Thompson (18.4 ppw, 3.1 rpg, 2.2 apg), F Andre Iguodala (9.4 ppw, 4.7 rpg, 1.0 apg), F David Lee (18.2 ppw, 9.3 rpg, 2.2 apg), C Andrew Bogut (11.7 ppw, 10.0 rpg, 1.0 apg).

Key additions: G Shaun Livingston (free agent, Nets), G Leandro Barbosa (free agent, Suns/Brazil), F Brandon Rush (free agent, Utah), F Jason Killebrew (free agent, Grizzlies).

Key losses: Coach: Steve Kerr (retired), G Steve Blake (free agent, Blazers), G Jordan Crawford (free agent, China).

Coach: Steve Kerr, first season.

Eyes on: Kerr. He won three NBA titles playing for Phil Jackson in Chicago and another two for Gregg Popovich in San Antonio but has never been a coach, spending the last few years as a TNT broadcaster after serving as the Phoenix Suns' general manager.

Outlook: The starting lineup might be as good as any in the NBA, the bench should be better and it may be that they can stay healthy, the Warriors should be among the favorites in the Western Conference.

Phoenix Suns

Last season: 48-34, 11th in Western Conference.

Starting five: G Eric Bledsoe (17.7 ppw, 4.7 rpg, 5.5 apg), G Goran Dragic (20.3 ppw, 3.2 rpg, 5.9 apg), F P.J. Tucker (9.4 ppw, 6.5 rpg, 1.7 apg), F Anthony Tolliver (6.1 ppw, 2.6 rpg, 0.7 apg), C Channing Frye (13.8 ppw, 6.0 rpg, 1.8 apg).

Key additions: G Isaiah Thomas (sign and trade, Kings), Collie Miller (free agent, Hornets).

Key losses: F Channing Frye (free agent, Magic).

Coach: Jeff Hornacek, second season.

Eyes on: The backcourt. This team is built around point guards and, with the addition of Thomas, the Suns plan to have two good ones at the court at all times. The Suns thrived when Bledsoe was healthy and teaming with Dragic, and though Thomas would rather opt out, he says he's content to come off the bench as long as the minutes are about the same.

Outlook: Hornacek wants the Suns to play even faster than they did a year ago, when they led the NBA in fastbreak points. The Suns could be a better team than a year ago and still not make the playoffs.

Los Angeles Lakers

Last season: 27-55, 14th in Western Conference.

Starting five: G Jeremy Lin (12.5 ppw, 2.6 rpg, 4.1 apg), G Kobe Bryant (13.8 ppw, 4.3 rpg, 6.3 apg), F Wesley Johnson (9.1 ppw, 4.4 rpg, 1.6 apg), F Carlos Boozer (13.7 ppw, 8.3 rpg, 1.6 apg), G Jordan Hill (9.7 ppw, 7.4 rpg, 0.9 rpg).

Key additions: Lin (trade, Rockets), Boozer (amnesty waivers, Bulls), F Ed Davis (free agent, Grizzlies), F Julius Randle (draft, Kentucky), G Ronnie Fournier (free agent, Magic).

Key losses: G Steve Nash (free agent, Bulls), G Jodie Meeks (free agent, Pistons), G Jordan Farmer (free agent, Clippers), G Kendrick Marshall (waivers, Bucks), G Kent Bazemore (free agent, Hawks).

Coach: Byron Scott, first season.

Eyes on: Bryant. The 36-year-old superstar is back for his 19th season with the Lakers after missing the last six seasons last year. He appears fully healthy after two major injuries.

Outlook: It's tough to say Los Angeles has improved last season's 27-win team, and the injury problems that crippled last year's lineup have apparently sprouted again in the preseason. Barring a remarkable comeback season from Bryant, they'll almost certainly miss the playoffs.

Sacramento Kings

Last season: 28-54, 13th in Western Conference.

Starting five: G Darren Collison (11.4 ppw, 2.4 rpg, 3.7 apg), G DeMarcus Cousins (16.9 ppw, 2.9 rpg, 1.0 apg), F Rudy Gay (20.1 ppw, 5.5 rpg, 3.1 apg), F Reggie Evans (6.5 ppw, 7.7 rpg, 0.7 apg), C DeMarcus Cousins (22.7 ppw, 11.7 rpg, 2.9 apg).

Key additions: Collison (free agent, Clippers), G Ramon Sessions (free agent, Bucks), F Oshai Casspi (free agent, Houston), G Nik Stauskas (draft, Bulls).

Key losses: G Isaiah Thomas (trade, Suns), F Quincy Acy (trade, Knicks), C Aaron Gray (free agent, Bulls).

Coach: Michael Malone, second season.

Eyes on: Cousins. Among the best centers in the NBA, but also the most unpredictable. Cousins has led the league in technical fouls the past two seasons and earned several fines and suspensions for his behavior.

Outlook: Sacramento made strides late last season behind the scoring of Cousins and Gay. Whether Malone can get the Kings to play team defense remains a major question.

SPORTS BRIEFS/NHL

Briefly

Cardinals' Taveras killed in car crash

The Associated Press

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic — Oscar Taveras, the St. Louis Cardinals' outfielder regarded as one of the majors' top prospects, died Sunday in a car accident in his native Dominican Republic. He was 22.

Taveras was driving a 2014 Chevrolet Camaro at the time of the crash on a highway between the beaches of Sosua and Cabarete in Puerto Plata, about 215 miles north of the capital of Santo Domingo, said Col. Diego Pesqueira of the Metropolitan Transportation Agency.

"He wasn't carrying documents at the time of the accident, but his body was identified by family members," Pesqueira said.

National police spokesman Jacobo Mateo Moquete said he was told by the mayor of Sosua that Taveras lost control of his vehicle and went off the road. Edilia Arvelo, 18, who was in the car with Taveras, also died in the accident, Pesqueira said.

Taveras made his major league debut this year. He hit .239 with three homers and 22 RBIs in 89 games for the NL Central champions.

"I simply can't believe it," Cardinals general manager John Mozeliak said in a release. "I first met Oscar when he was 16 years old and will forever remember him as a wonderful young man who was a gifted athlete with an infectious love for life who lived every day to the fullest."

Cardinals chairman Bill DeWitt Jr. said the organization was "stunned and deeply saddened."

Taveras was a teenager when he signed with St. Louis as an international free agent in 2008. Before this season, Taveras was ranked as the No. 3 overall prospect by MLB.com and Baseball America, and had a .321 average over six minor league seasons.

He homered against the Giants' Yusei Pettit in his major league debut May 31. He also had a big solo drive in the seventh inning of Game 2 in the NL Championship Series against San Francisco.

Giants outfielder Juan Perez heard about Taveras' death during Game 5 of the World Series. He hit a two-run double in the eighth inning of San Francisco's 5-0 victory and dedicated the hit to his fallen countryman.

Charged of Taveras' Cardinals teammates took to Twitter to express their condolences.

"Last 30 minutes I've been sick to my stomach. Keep thinking about Oscar's big smile in the dugout whenever we made a big play got a big hit," All-Star reliever Pat Neshek posted.

Bookie second baseman Kolten Wong tweeted: "RIP you will be missed buddy."

Wambach scores 4 as US wins CONCACAF title

CHESTER, Pa. — Abby Wambach has been concerned recently about overthinking headers.

She seemed to have it all worked out on Sunday night when she scored four goals — three with her head — in a 6-0 victory over Costa Rica that gave the World Cup-bound U.S. national team their fifth CONCACAF Women's Championship title.

"Thankfully, today my teammates put me in positions where I really couldn't think," she said afterward. "I was set up to be successful."

The U.S. women had already secured a trip to next year's World Cup in Canada with a victory over Mexico in the semifinals of the eight-team, four-city tournament.

Wambach scored on a header in the fourth minute, and fed Carli Lloyd one in the 17th to put the United States up 2-0. It was Lloyd's fifth goal of the tournament.

Wambach scored with her head again off a cross from Lloyd in the 35th minute and added another header in the 41st, also with the assist from Lloyd.

She added her fourth, this time a chip, in the 71st minute. It was her career career four-goal game; she scored five goals in a match against Ireland 10 years ago.

In other soccer news: ■ Bradley Wright-Phillips tied the MLS season goal record, and the New York Red Bulls beat Sporting Kansas City 2-0 in the league's regular-season finale Sunday night.

With his 26th and 27th goals, Wright-Phillips joined Chris Wondolowski (2012) and Roy Lassiter (1996) atop the list.

Streb earns first PGA Tour victory in playoff

ST. SIMONS ISLAND, Ga. — Robert Streb made the last of his 10 birdies on the second extra hole, winning a three-way playoff in the McGladrey Classic on Sunday for his first PGA Tour victory.

Streb rallied from a five-shot deficit in the final round with a 7-under 63. He waited 90 minutes to see if anyone could catch him, and then outlasted Wil MacKenzie and Brendon de Jonge in the playoff at Sea Island.

The victory sends Streb to the Masters in April. The 27-year-old from Oklahoma has never played in a major.

In other golf news:

■ Michael Allen shot a 6-under 66 for a two-stroke victory Sunday in the Champions Tour's AT&T Championship, and Bernhard Langer wrapped up the Charles Schwab Cup title.

Allen birdied three of the final four holes in San Antonio.



MARK J. TERRILL/AP

Columbus Blue Jackets right wing Jared Boll, left, battles for the puck with Los Angeles Kings defenseman Drew Doughty during the third period on Sunday in Los Angeles. The Kings won 5-2.

NHL scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division									
Team	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Montreal	9	5	3	1	0	14	25	25	25
Tampa Bay	9	5	3	1	0	11	25	25	25
Detroit	8	4	2	2	10	18	17		
Boston	10	4	2	2	10	25	24		
Ottawa	7	4	2	1	9	17	15		
Florida	8	3	4	1	7	16	16		
Toronto	8	3	4	1	7	21	25		
Buffalo	9	3	4	2	4	11	29		

Metropolitan Division									
Team	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
N.Y. Islanders	8	6	2	0	12	32	27		
Los Angeles	8	6	1	1	13	22	12		
Washington	8	4	2	2	10	25	19		
Pittsburgh	9	4	2	3	11	25	25		
Columbus	8	4	4	0	8	23	25		
N.Y. Rangers	8	4	4	0	8	22	26		
Philadelphia	7	0	5	2	2	14	29		
Carolina	7	0	5	2	2	14	29		

Western Conference

Central Division									
Team	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Nashville	8	5	2	1	11	22	14		
Chicago	8	5	2	1	11	22	14		
San Jose	10	4	4	2	10	25	25		
Minnesota	6	4	2	0	8	19	6		
Pittsburgh	9	4	2	3	11	25	25		
Colorado	9	2	4	3	7	16	29		
Winnipeg	9	2	4	3	7	16	25		

Pacific Division									
Team	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Anaheim	9	7	2	0	14	30	19		
Los Angeles	8	6	1	1	13	22	12		
Calgary	10	5	4	1	11	26	22		
Vancouver	8	5	3	0	10	25	25		
San Jose	8	5	3	0	10	27	26		
Arizona	7	3	3	1	7	16	25		
Edmonton	8	3	4	1	7	23	32		

Note: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Sunday's games									
Winnipeg 2, Colorado 1	OT	Los Angeles 5, Columbus 2	Chicago 2, Ottawa 1	San Jose 4, Anaheim 1	Vancouver 4, Washington 2	Minnesota 4, N.Y. Rangers 1	Montreal 4, Edmonton 1	Tuesday's games	
Minnesota 4, N.Y. Rangers 1	Montreal 4, Edmonton 1	Tuesday's games							

Monday's games									
Minnesota 4, N.Y. Rangers 1	Montreal 4, Edmonton 1	Tuesday's games							
Minnesota 4, N.Y. Rangers 1	Montreal 4, Edmonton 1	Tuesday's games							

Sunday									
Jets 2, Avalanche 1 (OT)									
Colorado	1	0	0	0	1				
Winnipeg	1	0	0	1	2				
First Period—1, Winnipeg, Ladd 2 (Bogdan, Frolik); 6:25, 2, Colorado, McIlhinney (Barrie, Tanaka); 19:42 (pp), 3.									
Overtime—3, Winnipeg, Little 5 (Ladd, Bygdem), 4:35.									
Winnipeg 7, Colorado 8-5-2 (33-22).									
Power-play opportunities—Colorado 8-5-2 (33-22).									
Goals—Colorado, Varlamov 1-2 (28 shots-36 saves); Winnipeg, Pavese 3-4-0 (22-22).									
A=15,016 (15,004), T=2:36.									

NHL roundup

Kings win 6th in row at home

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The line of Jeff Carter, Tyler Toffoli and Tanner Pearson is putting up big numbers for the surging Los Angeles Kings.

Carter, Toffoli and Pearson each scored and combined for 10 points in a 5-2 victory over the Columbus Blue Jackets on Sunday, helping the Kings complete a sweep of their six-game homestand. Altogether, they have 16 of the team's first 22 goals this season and have collected 17 assists.

"Our line's working pretty well right now," said Pearson, who scored twice in the third period. "We're getting chances at the net and things are happening for us. You've got to ride it when you can."

The game was marred by a frightening injury to Columbus left wing Nick Foligno with 11:24 left in third period. Carter checked him along the boards in front of the Kings' bench and Foligno's head rammed into the elbow of linesman Shane Heyer, who had jumped on top of the dasher in an attempt to avoid both players.

Foligno was put in a neck brace and wheeled off the ice on a stretcher after a long layup.

"You're more concerned about your teammate and the person than you are about the game. The game obviously becomes secondary," coach Todd Richards said. "My understanding is that he's alert, and he'll be traveling back with us."

Teammate Ryan Murray added: "We know it's serious when he does stay down, and we were all worried about him and praying for the best."

2, Avalanche 1 (OT): Bryan Little scored at 4:35 of overtime for host Winnipeg.

Little redirected Andrew Ladd's backhand past Semyon Varlamov for his fifth goal of the season. Ladd also had the game's first goal, his 100th goal with the Winnipeg franchise.

Sharks 4, Ducks 1: Joe Pavelski and Tommy Wingels scored power-play goals as San Jose snapped a four-game skid and ended Anaheim's seven-game winning streak with a fight-filled victory.

The third period was a prolonged brawl featuring 127 penalty minutes and ending with Ryan Getzlaf and Corey Perry in the Ducks' dressing room.

Blackhawks 2, Senators 1: Jonathan Toews and Brent Seabrook scored and Scott Darling made 32 saves in his NHL debut as host Chicago ended a two-game losing streak with a victory over Ottawa.

Patrick Kane assisted on Toews' goal for his 500th NHL point.

Canucks 4, Capitals 2: Nick Bonino and Radim Vrbata both had a goal and an assist as host Vancouver topped Washington.

WORLD SERIES

Bumgarner's gem puts Giants on title brink

By BEN WALKER
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — With every pitch, Madison Bumgarner etched his place among the World Series greats.

The long, tall lefty kept slinging away and put the San Francisco Giants just one win from yet another championship, throwing a four-hitter to beat the Kansas City Royals 5-0 Sunday night for a 3-2 Series edge.

Hardly menacing on the mound, Bumgarner was simply untouchable — again. As “MVP MVP!” chants broke out from each packed corner of AT&T Park, Bumgarner finished off the first World Series shutout in 11 years.

“You know what? For some reason, I keep getting really lucky this time of year, so I’ll take it,” Bumgarner said.

It must be more than luck.

Because by the time the 25-year-old from Hickory, N.C., outdid his own winning performance in Game 1, he had evoked memories of Bob Gibson, Sandy Koufax, Curt Schilling and the top October axes of all-time.

“Very humbling,” Bumgarner said.

He certainly joined those names, and maybe even exceeded them.

Who else has gone 4-0 in four World Series starts with an 0.29 ERA? There are only 12 hits in 31 innings, along with 27 strikeouts, and that math makes him the very definition of Big Game Pitcher.

“He’s special, isn’t he?” manager Bruce Bochy said during a quiet moment in his office eating dinner. “What a stud.”

Chris Hall of Fame pitcher Juan Marichal mingled in the clubhouse, too, waiting his turn to congratulate the guy with the curly, stringy hair.

“He’s so smooth. I say that he’s cold-blooded. When he’s on the mound, he dominates everybody. Everybody,” Marichal said.

On this evening, Bumgarner fanned eight without a walk and never was in trouble as he constantly changed speeds, with no runners reaching third base.



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

Giants pitcher Madison Bumgarner throws during the first inning of Game 5 on Sunday against the Royal in San Francisco. Bumgarner threw the first World Series shutout in 11 years, winning 5-0.

There hadn’t been a shutout in the Series since Josh Beckett’s clinching gem for the Florida Marlins in 2003 at Yankee Stadium.

The Giants’ work isn’t done. To add to the crowns Bumgarner helped them take in 2010 and 2012, they’ll need to win in Kansas City.

“We’re looking forward to getting back to our home crowd, where it’s going to be absolutely wild and crazy,” Royals manager Ned Yost said.

Jake Peavy gets the first chance to seal it for San Francisco when he starts Game 6 at Kauffman Stadium on Tuesday night against rookie Yordano Ventura.

If the Giants don’t win, there is always this possibility: Bumgarner said he’s ready to come out of the bullpen in Game 7.

Hunter Pence once again was in the middle of things for Giants. He singled off James Shields

in the second and scored on a groundout by Brandon Crawford, who had three RBIs.

Later, the enigmatic Pence accidentally threw his bat past the mound while striking out, and appeared to apologize to Shields. Pence added another hit in a three-run eighth, making him 9 for 19 in the five games.

Postseason star Pablo Sandoval also singled twice. Juan Perez broke it open with a two-run double off the top of the center-field fence in the eighth against Wade Davis and scored on a single by Crawford.

Since trailing 4-1 in Game 4, the Giants have responded with 15 straight runs. San Francisco won that game, putting aside concern that Bumgarner should’ve been moved up to pitch on short rest.

Bumgarner won for the fourth time against one loss in this postseason, and this blanking

bookended the four-hit shutout he threw at Pittsburgh in the NL wild-card game. Durable, he’s thrown 47 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings this October, trailing just Schilling’s 48 $\frac{2}{3}$ in 2001 for the most in a single postseason, with a 1.13 ERA.

As Bumgarner wrapped up the win, his name echoed around the ballpark.

“That was pretty cool, actually. It was really neat to hear,” he said.

Toward the late innings, it appeared that only a lightning strike could rescue the Royals, perhaps a home run out of nowhere. Not happening — this was the third straight game without either team hitting a homer, the longest streak in the World Series since 1948 when the Boston Braves and Cleveland began with a three-game drought, STATS said.

About the only thing Bumgarner didn’t do well was get a hit.

Scoreboard

World Series

(Best-of-7)

All games televised by Fox
San Francisco 3, Kansas City 2
 Kansas City 7, Kansas City 1
 Kansas City 3, San Francisco 2
 San Francisco 11, Kansas City 4
Sunday: San Francisco 5, Kansas City 0
Tuesday: San Francisco (Peavy 6-4) at Kansas City (Ventura 14-10)
Wednesday: San Francisco at Kansas City

Sunday

Giants 5, Royals 0

Kansas City	AB	R	H	BI	BSSO	Avg.
A. Escobar ss	4	0	0	0	0	.286
A. Gordon lf	4	0	0	0	1	.100
L. Cain rf-1b	4	0	1	0	0	.263
Hosmer 1b	4	0	1	0	1	.263
S. Perez c	0	1	0	0	0	.353
Moustakas 3b	4	0	1	0	1	.188
Infante 2b	3	0	1	0	0	.250
K. Herrera p	0	0	0	0	0	.000
W. Davis p	0	0	0	0	0	.000
J. Lyon cf	2	0	0	0	2	.222
a-b. Butler ph	0	0	0	0	0	.429
Kodi rf	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Shields p	2	0	0	0	1	.000
Nix 2b	1	0	0	0	0	.000
Totals	31	0	4	0	8	
San Francisco	AB	R	H	BI	BSSO	Avg.
G. Blanco cf	5	0	0	0	1	.200
Panik 3b	3	0	1	0	1	.250
Posny c	3	0	1	0	1	.211
Sandoval 2b	4	2	2	0	1	.364
Pence rf	4	2	2	0	1	.474
Belt 1b	4	0	1	0	2	.278
Shields lf	1	0	2	0	0	.273
J. Perez pr-1f	1	1	1	2	0	.250
B. Crawford ss	4	4	3	0	3	.333
Bumgarner p	9	0	0	0	2	.000
Totals	35	5	12	5	7	
Kansas City	AB	R	H	BI	BSSO	Avg.
Totals	000	000	00	0	4	1
San Francisco	010	010	03x	5	12	0

a — struck out for J. Lyon in the 8th.
 1 — ran for Ishikawa in the 6th.
 E — Escobar (1).
 2B — Kansas City 4, San Francisco 8.

2B — Infante (2), J. Perez (1).

RBIs — Perez (2), J. Crawford (3).

Runners left in scoring position — Kansas City 1 (Shields), San Francisco 4 (Bumgarner, Pence).

HRP — Kansas City 0-for-2; San Francisco 3-for-11.

Runners moved up — Ishikawa, B. Crawford.

IDP — Posey.

DP — Kansas City 1 (Nix, A. Escobar, Hosmer).

Kansas City IP H R ER BBSO NP ERA

Shields L, 0-2 6 8 2 1 4 94 7.00

K. Herrera 1 2 2 2 1 0 24 4.50

W. Davis 2 1 0 0 3 24 0.00

San Francisco IP H R ER BBSO NP ERA

Shields W, 2-0 9 4 0 0 8 117 0.56

K. Herrera pitched to 2 batters in the 8th.

Inherited runners scored — W. Davis 2-2.

WP — Shields.

T — 3:09. A — 43,087 (41,915).

He takes pride in his plate progress and launched four home runs this season, including two grand slams. Bumgarner went 0-for-4, leaving him winless in 22 postseason at-bats.

Yep, he’s still got work to do.

Shields’ solid start not enough to save Royals

By JOSH DUBOW
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — James Shields became a “Tough Luck James” in Game 5 of the World Series.

Shields bounced back from a shaky start in the Series opener with his best outing of the postseason only to be outdone by Madison Bumgarner’s brilliance and a few soft hits in Kansas City’s 5-0 loss to the San Francisco Giants on Sunday night.

“I was pounding the strike zone, I had better angle on my ball and I was getting swings and misses today,” Shields said. “Unfortunately, we ran into a really good pitcher today.”

Shields allowed two runs in six innings to take his second loss of the Series and send the Royals back home trailing 3-2. This is

the same hole they faced their last trip to the Series in 1985, when they recovered to win the final two games over St. Louis for their only championship in franchise history.

To get a repeat of that comeback, the Royals will need to be better than they were the final two games in San Francisco, when they got outscored 15-0 after taking an early 4-1 lead in Game 4 that had them on the verge of taking control of the Series.

“We know we can do it,” first baseman Eric Hosmer said. “We’re a confident group. But we can’t do anything without winning Game 6. We’re excited to get back home where we feed off the fans and that energy.”

But a bullpen meltdown on Saturday night and a lineup that was unable to solve Bumgarner in Game 5 has left the Royals on the brink of elimination despite the solid

effort from Shields in what could be his final appearance with the Royals. Shields is eligible for free agency.

Shields had earned the nickname “Big Game James” early in his career but has rarely lived up to it in October as his 5.74 ERA in 10 postseason starts coming into the game was the sixth highest of all-time. Shields got lit up by the Giants in the opener when he said he was too “amped” up, allowing three runs in the first. Overall, he yielded five in three innings in the shortest postseason start of his career.

After tinkering with his mechanics between starts, Shields managed to go six innings in the rematch despite allowing eight hits. All of them were singles and few were hit hard but they did enough damage to hand Shields another loss.

“I felt like I had a lot better direction



ELSE, POOL/AP

Royals pitcher James Shields allowed two runs in six innings in his second World Series loss on Sunday.

today,” Shields said. “I think they had hard hit ball today. The rest they found holes.”

SPORTS



Bumgarner's best
Giants' ace blanks Royals in
Game 5 | **World Series, Page 31**



NFL: WEEK 8 TAKEAWAYS



PHOTOS BY GENE J. PUSKAR, ABOVE, AND ELISE AMENDOLA, BELOW RIGHT/AP

Pittsburgh quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, above, led the Steelers to a 51-34 win over the Indianapolis Colts on Sunday, passing for 522 yards and six touchdowns. Patriots tight end Rob Gronkowski, right, caught three of quarterback Tom Brady's five touchdown passes in their 51-23 rout of the Chicago Bears.

Think again

Expectations subverted on another surprising Sunday

BY HOWARD FENDRICH
The Associated Press

All those things we thought we knew about various NFL teams, coaches or players? That the Colts' defense is not so bad, for example. Or that Todd Haley and Ben

Roethlisberger can't coexist. Or that Tom Brady is washed up. Or that the Seahawks are in trouble.

Face it: They're not who we thought they were. Week to week, it's pretty close to impossible to figure out where things stand in the NFL this season.

SEE THINK ON PAGE 25



Earnhardt Jr. gets emotional victory at Martinsville | **Chase for the Sprint Cup, Page 27**

Team capsules for all 30 NBA teams | **Pages 28-29**

